CQ

APRIL, 195(

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- A Beginner's 160-Meter Transmitte

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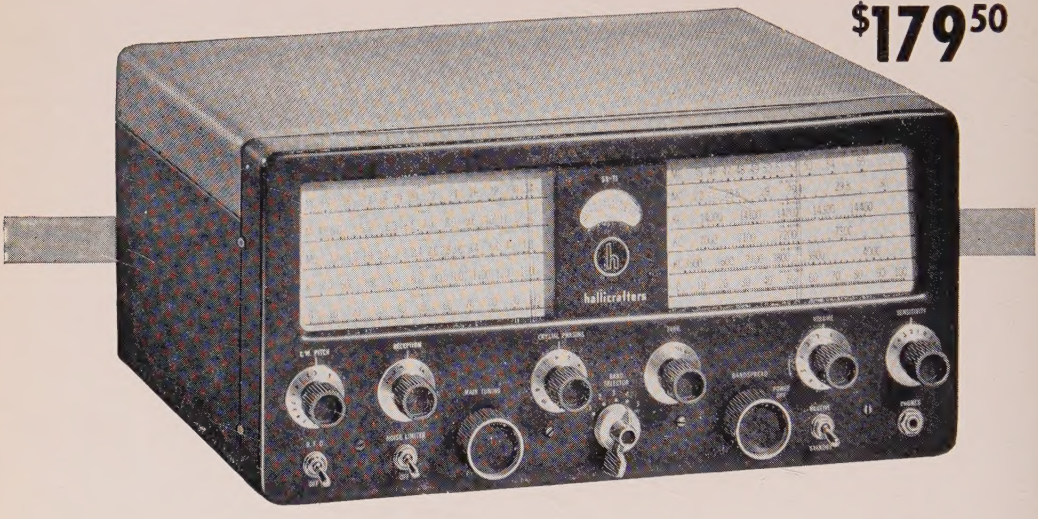

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CQ The Radio Amateurs' Journal

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Vol. 6 April, 1950 No. 4

In This Issue

OUR COVER—The new 807W sits for its first formal portrait, behaving itself nicely. Although this bottle won't be ready for general distribution until late summer or early fall, we present a preview of it on page 26.

Feenix, Ariz.

Deer Hon. Ed:

I are knowing that you are well-known authority on emergency communications and net operation on see-w so Scratchi are post-hasting to tell you about most bemusing experience which are occuring to him recently.

The past few weeks there is much to do about all the local hams not being ready if some emergency is happening, like having big flood here on desert, or having all power fail because Boulder Dam is springing leak, or some such thing. This is striking home and hurting Scratchi's civic pride, so I decided to join bunch of fellows forming emergency club.

For first cupple of weeks we are meeting practically every other night, talking over plans for emergency operation, deciding on what frequencies to use, and even having hams from other states come over to give us lowdown on best ways to do things. Finally we reach the point where we decide to operate on eighty meter see-w and get into regular net operation.

Unfortunately my rig just happen not to be working on acct. having bad case of toobs with holes in plates, so Scratchi are unable to participate in first drill. Howsomever I are listening on the band when net control comes on and asks members to report in. One fellow are swinging VFO down on net control frequency and calling in reel snappy like, but no one else is coming on. Net control again coming on and asking where everyone are, but still no one on the air.

This are going on for a little while, and still nobody even calling in. In fact, it is so quiet on the net frequency that I are heering some VK calling CQ DX. Just then telephone is ringing and it turns out to be net control, asking me why I'm not on the air. I tell him my rig not working, but I are there in spirit because I am monitoring the frequency. Net control ask me to please tune over the band to see what happening.

Gracious to goodness saki, when tuning receiver, are finding almost everybody are on for drill. Only, getting this Hon. Ed., they are all over the band Stations are spread out twenty kilocycles on either side of net frequency. I quick-like get net control on landline and tell him this, so he comes on air and tells everybody to QNZ to his frequency. This is causing mad noises on band as signals are shifting around, but when it are all over, signals are still not even close to net frequency.

Net control is now being able to hear other stations, on acct. he know that they not exactly on net frequency, but I can see by his nervous fist that he are mad about something.

We are having meeting of emergency club next night, and net control are reely mad. He saying that any bunch of hams that can't even get their frequency within twenty kilocycles of the right frequency not even deserving to own VFO, and

(Continued on page 72)

"Thanks for the dope on the new Sylvania 807W"

—says Joe Furrier, W1PZ

Mr. Furrier is another radio amateur who likes the convenience of dropping in at his local Sylvania distributor for friendly advice . . . as well as for those top quality Sylvania transmitting tubes.

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★ ★ Letters ★ ★

More on BC-610 TVI

614 Woodland Ave., Avon-by-the Sea, N. J.

Editor, *CQ:*

Read a letter in your correspondence column from W9IHM begging for assistance and relief of TVI on the BC-610. This transmitter is the worst harmonic generator in existence. Even on 3.5 mc the harmonics wipe out every TV channel. I have licked the TVI problem on the BC-610 and will forward the dope to anyone who will write to me and enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Karl A. Woehrer, W2CTI

2625 Adams Ave., Baton Rouge, La.

Editor, *CQ:*

In answer to the letter in your January issue relative to curing TVI in a BC-610—Mr. Guetter should contact W5DHE here for his sure-fire cure. Since he started working a 3 to 11 P.M. shift at a local industrial plant he hasn't received a single complaint from local TV fans.

Everett E. Magee

Amateur Radioteletype

38–06 Sixty-first St., Woodside, N. Y.

Editor, *CQ:*

It will be a long time before you can smooth my ruffled pride! We got a big kick out of *CQ*'s reporting of the election return and Turkey Run doings, but where did you get that information about the Bell System teletype between W2TYU and WNYC?

We used W2PCD's printer equipment on the WNYC-W2NJF-W2QGH circuit and two of mine on the W2TYU-WNYC link, with yours truly pounding the keyboard in Studio "A", under the eye of two WNBT television cameras. Altogether there were five complete amateur teletype systems at work.

The fact of the matter is that the wire services furnished only one message that was used during the entire evening. The hams upstate should be proud to know that their stuff came through so promptly that the four wire-service printers alongside our two merely supplied the wastebasket, as their material had been posted on the bulletin board by us about an hour earlier. Forget those Bell System teletypes, they did not exist!

John E. Williams, W2BFD

Help Wanted

104 Herman St., Buffalo 12, N. Y.

Editor, *CQ:*

I would appreciate hearing from any of *CQ*'s readers who might be able to supply me with information on the use of the old RCA IP501A receiver with its low-frequency loading coil. The receiver works fine on the higher ranges, but I can't get a squeak out of it when I connect the loading unit.

R. G. Summers

Docket 9295

WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

EDITOR, *CQ:*

THIS IS TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO A GLARING ERROR OF OMISSION IN PROPOSED RULE 12 SECTION 12.0 BASIS AND PURPOSE SUB SECTION QUOTE (F) PROVISION OF GENEROUS SEGMENTS OF THE COMMUNICATION SPECTRUM TO A SERVICE WHICH MAY GRACEFULLY VACATE IMMEDIATELY UPON DEMAND IN CASES OF INTERNATIONAL EMERGENCY UNQUOTE. WE MUST ADMIT THIS OR ELSE DENY THE LAST TWO WORLD WARS AND THE PRESENT ATLANTIC PACT.

GEORGE BONADIO, W2WLR

ZERO BIAS

EDITORIAL

Contributing Editor Bob Cheek, W3LOE, recipient of Eta Kappa Nu's award as "Outstanding Young Electrical Engineer of the Year," delivered a talk entitled "Amateur Radio—A Public Service" on the occasion of his acceptance of the award at the Henry Hudson Hotel, in New York City, on January 30th. We consider it a masterful expression of the aims and purposes of amateur radio, phrased in a manner suited to the non-amateur audience at the presentation banquet. We take pleasure in printing it here in the hope that amateur organizations throughout this country will take advantage of its excellent phraseology to further public relations. As an expression of a prominent engineer's feeling toward his hobby, and as a statement by a CQ staff member of CQ's position, we commend it to your attention.—A.E.H.

This is a welcome opportunity for me to "lobby for my hobby," as they used to say on that radio program. It was through amateur radio that I first became interested in electrical engineering, and it was the experience I gained as an amateur operator that made it possible for me to work as a commercial operator at sea and at broadcast stations to finance my education.

Many people picture radio amateurs as a bunch of youngsters who tinker around endlessly with home-made transmitting and receiving equipment, chattering continually at each other about practically nothing at all and generally using valuable space in the short-wave spectrum for no apparently useful purpose.

However, the members of the amateur radio fraternity are not all youngsters by any means, as is evidenced by the fact that the average age of the approximately 80,000 amateurs in this country is 35 years. Furthermore, since radio stations of all kinds are licensed by the Federal Communications Commission only "in the public interest, convenience and necessity," these radio amateurs must serve at least a few useful purposes in our scheme of things.

These useful purposes have nowhere been better summarized than by the F.C.C. itself in the preamble to its recently proposed revision of the amateur regulations. I quote directly from these regulations:

"Basis and Purpose.—These rules and regulations are designed to provide an Amateur Radio Service having a fundamental purpose as expressed by the following principles:

"(a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary non-commercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.

"(b) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.

"(c) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur radio service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the art.

"(d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.

"(e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international good will."

Most of you who have attended national or regional fairs or expositions will recall having seen booths where amateur radio stations were set up, with placards about, inviting you to send radiograms free to the folks back home. But these are the exceptional examples of the activity of an important group of amateurs whose major satisfaction in their hobby is that of providing, day in and day out, an entirely voluntary and self-financed communications service to the public. This is a highly organized group, as evidenced by the fact that they have established fourteen permanent east-west and north-south trunk lines with stations at key points along these routes from one end of the country to the other, a few extending even into Japan, Germany, Alaska, and other U.S. possessions and occupied territories. These stations in turn operate with numerous sectional and local networks to provide speedy and efficient handling and delivery of message traffic. They have route managers, section communications managers, and net control stations, whose authority in matters within their defined jurisdiction is undisputed.

Do not assume that the messages handled by these amateurs are all of a personal and relatively unimportant nature. They can handle any type of message, regardless of its importance or its commercial implications provided only that they receive no pecuniary reward for their efforts—and none of them expects or would accept any reward other than the sheer satisfaction that he gets out of being part of a smoothly functioning and efficient operating team.

Closely allied with the day-by-day message handlers is another group within the amateur service, a group which is equally highly organized. This is the Amateur Emergency Corps. Regardless of what section of the country that any of you in the audience tonight may be from, there is a group of public-spirited amateurs in your vicinity who have pledged themselves to maintain radio equipment that will be usable in case of emergencies or disasters which interrupt normal communications and regular sources of power. These same operators, along with others who have volunteered to provide supplementary service in case of emergency, have worked out in conjunction with your local relief organizations, such as the Red Cross, with the utilities, and with the state, municipal, and military authorities, a thorough and detailed program for the provision of communications service at times of local disaster. This program is tested and revised

as necessary by periodic simulated emergency drills. These groups are organized and headed up in each community by an emergency coördinator, who reports to a section emergency coördinator, of whom there are 72 in the U.S.A. and Canada, all serving voluntarily and without remuneration. These, in turn, report to a national emergency coordinator whose full-time job is the administering of this service and whose salary is paid by an amateur organization.

The records of the disasters, big and small, that have struck within our country since amateur radio came into existence are replete with accounts of the unselfish service and in some cases of the actual heroism of individual amateurs, as well as of these organized emergency groups. To mention only a few of the most recent cases of service in major emergencies, I might cite the Texas-Oklahoma tornadoes and the Texas City explosions, which occurred almost simultaneously in the Spring of 1947. In the latter case, amateur portable and mobile communications equipment had been moved into Texas City from nearby Houston and was operating within three hours after the initial series of blasts. Several of these groups remained in Texas City continuously thereafter, disregarding all warnings to evacuate, and handled hundreds of messages for the Red Cross, police, and others. All were badly shaken up in the subsequent explosions, and the members of one group which was operating within 100 feet of a ship that exploded received more serious injuries, although all fortunately survived.

There is not time to go into the extensive story of the service rendered by amateurs during and immediately subsequent to the destructive Florida-Gulf Coast Hurricane of 1947. However, it is significant to note that the Florida Legislature, in recognition of the efforts of the state's amateur operators in this and many other such emergencies, recently passed a bill which provides all Florida amateurs with automobile license plates bearing their amateur call letters instead of the usual numbers.

The F.C.C. has mentioned the ability of radio amateurs to contribute to the technical advancement of the art. It is a well-known fact, of course, that the utility of the wavelengths below 200 meters, to which they were relegated after the First World War, was first demonstrated by the amateurs. Less well known is the fact the the crystal filter, universally used in all military and commercial communications receivers today, was developed by an amateur in an amateur laboratory, and that the Class B modulator, used in nearly all high-powered broadcast transmitters, was adopted and developed by amateurs long before it was used commercially.

In view of the state of complexity to which the radio art has now progressed, however, one may well wonder how lone experimenters, working on limited time in their own homes and within the limits of their personal financial resources, can possibly contribute anything further to the technical advancement of radio. But do not discount the amateurs too quickly. Consider the fact that there are more amateur radio stations in this country than all other types of stations combined, and more amateur operators than all grades of commercial operators combined. Consider, too, the fact that these amateurs are dispersed throughout every part of the country. The Government, recently becoming vitally interested in correlating and confirming the theories of sporadic propagation effects at the very high frequencies, found itself in need of an army of trained observers, in numbers that even it could not provide, to monitor the very-high-frequency spectrum regularly and to submit regular and systematic reports on all unusual propagation effects. All that was required for the amateurs to fill this need was an appeal in the Radio Amateur's Journal, stating the problem and telling where to write for reporting forms. Even as I speak to you at this moment, there are hundreds of amateurs transmitting on these very high frequencies, and other hundreds listening; and anything unusual that is occurring, especially any unusually long-distance reception, is being duly noted in systematic form. These reports will be sent to a central point, which will analyze and correlate the observations and transmit them to government laboratories.

It is expected that these observations will contribute materially to our general knowledge of very high frequency propagation and the weather conditions that influence it, with direct effects upon developments in the fields of dynamic meteorology, rocket aeronautics, and others. And to get a little closer to our own particular interests, who can deny that the work of these self-financed and unselfish workers will play a part in accelerating the lifting of the present "freeze" on television allocations, which originally came about because of unexpected propagation effects in the very-high-frequency television bands, and which has remained in effect for so long pending studies of these phenomena.

Our government, especially the Army and the Navy, recognizes the value of the amateurs as a reservoir of trained operators and technicians, able to step in at a moment's notice to serve their country in these capacities at times of national emergency. It has been estimated that 25,000 licensed amateurs served in the armed forces during World War II, most of them in the Signal Corps, as operators, instructors, and radar and communications technicians. Other thousands served as civilians in the War Emergency Radio Service, which was organized by the Office of Civilian Defense.

Today thousands of amateurs are enrolled in the Military Amateur Radio Service and in Naval Reserve Communication Networks and participate in regular drills on military frequencies, keeping themselves up to date and in practice on the latest operating and message handling procedures used by the Armed Forces.

The F.C.C. has mentioned the unique part that amateurs can play in the promotion of international good will. It is apparently surprising to some people to learn that for radio amateurs there is no "iron curtain" in eastern Europe. The government of the U.S.S.R., you may be sure, also recognizes the military value of a large and active amateur radio service. Dozens of conversations take place every day between U.S. amateurs and their counterparts in every part of the U.S.S.R., from White Russia to Far Eastern Siberia. In most of the conversations language is to some extent a barrier, but all the Russian operators seem to know enough stock English phrases to pass along routine remarks about signal strengths and equipment details. With the few who do speak English well, many of us have had some enjoyable conversations. One of these is a radio engineer of about my age in Leningrad who calls himself Bob, although his name is actually Boris. He is married and has two young sons. He is a receiver designer at a radio factory there. Since receiver design is a particular interest of my own and since we have some other

(Continued on page 69)

Building a Wide-Spaced Twenty-Meter Rotary Beam

WILLIAM I. ORR, W6SAI*

When Bill Orr built his new beam he really engineered it from the ground up! Here, in part one of a two-part presentation, are general considerations for all beam builders. Next month Bill will give us the specific electrical design he found best, and plenty of dope on adjusting his (or any other) rotary beam.

A YEAR OR SO AGO W6SAI put up a 3-element wide-spaced 14-mc beam antenna. This beam did yeoman service for about sixteen months—and then came the day when a move in QTH for 6SAI and family loomed upon the horizon. A few days after a "For Sale" sign was placed in front of the house it became apparent that only another ham would buy a house that had a 3-element wide-spaced rotary sitting atop its ridge-pole. Since the supply of hams who were in the market for a house seemed to be at a seasonal low, it was decided to take the beam down.

Alas, this was easier said than done. The first thing I discovered upon climbing the 4×4 mast was that all of the stove bolts holding the beam to the supporting framework were immovable, and the nuts were firmly welded to the bolt threads by a thick coat of rust. The few bolts that had a minimum of rust upon them had stripped heads, out of which a screwdriver would slither at the slightest application of pressure. I realized that getting the beam down would be a major project compared to the problem of getting it up in the air!

The job was finally tackled with a hacksaw and a cold chisel. After a great deal of vein-bursting effort, the beam was dismantled and an oath was taken that the *next* beam built at the new QTH would be designed not only to go *up*, but to come *down!*

This paper describes the design and construction of a specific 14-mc beam antenna. I don't expect that the reader will make a Chinese copy of it, but the basic ideas of construction and tuning are applicable to any beam—be it a 14-mc one, or a 28- or 50-mc array. The problem of finding the proper materials for the construction is daily becoming greater, as the surplus stocks of tubing and aluminium sheet are dwindling. However, these ideas are presented as a general guide, not as a static blueprint to be rigidly followed, and they can be modified to suit your pocketbook or the contents of your local salvage yard!

A rotary beam antenna is mechanically composed of four separate, basic parts. They are: 1) thrust bearing and support; 2) rotating mechanism; 3) beam mounting assembly, and 4) antenna.

Beware! Do not let any one of these parts do the work of the others, or you will find yourself trapped in a mechanical snare that will be your downfall. See what happened to SAI later in the story when he violated this basic rule!

Thrust Bearing and Support

The thrust bearing should consist of a low-friction bearing designed to take the weight of the beam off the rotating mechanism. The support bearings will take no vertical thrust, but will prevent side play of the beam. A typical example of this arrangement is shown in *Fig. 1*. It is extremely important that the thrust bearing not be a part of the rotating mechanism! Several years ago I built a beam and supported and rotated it with a "prop pitch" motor (violating the cardinal rule mentioned above). The rotation pipe was bolted to the prop pitch motor gear, and the motor sat atop a short lattice tower. One fine day it became necessary to replace the motor brushes. In order to get at the brushes, the rain shield of the motor had to be removed and the electric motor removed from the gear chamber. To do this, the beam had to be taken down completely to allow

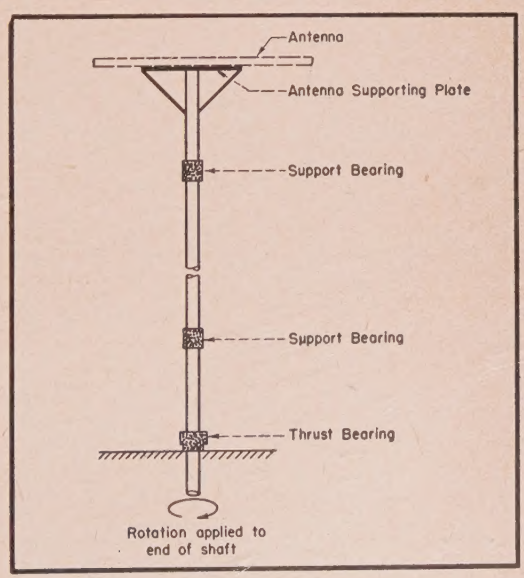


Fig. 1. The antenna supporting structure should have both support bearings and thrust bearings. Don't try to make one bearing take both roles!

* *555 Crestline Drive, Los Angeles 49, Calif.*

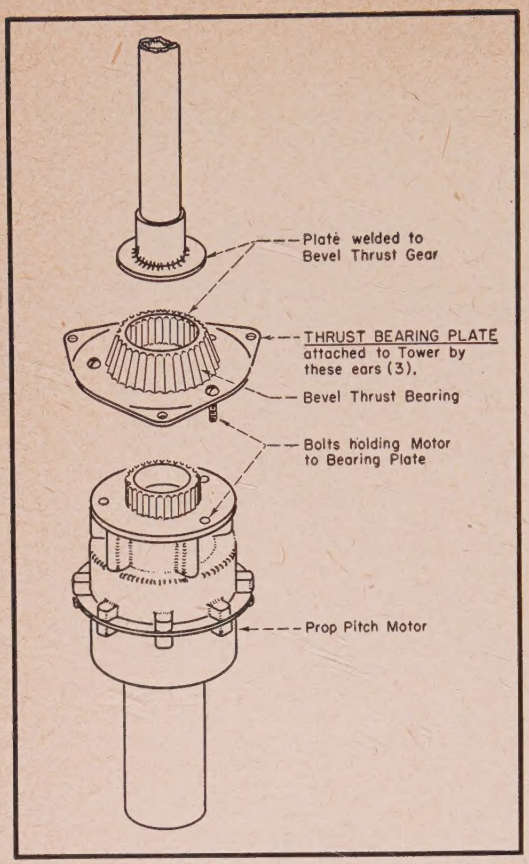


Fig. 2. The familiar "prop pitch" motor provides an excellent thrust bearing as well as a good source of torque. See text for details.

the supporting pipe to be raised a few feet in order to free the motor! The simple task of replacing the motor brushes demanded the complete dismemberment of the beam and took a whole weekend. Therefore, never support the weight of the beam directly on the rotating mechanism. It is too difficult to remove the rotator for service and repair.

Fortunately, the popular prop pitch motor, if mounted properly, will supply its own thrust bearing. The bevel ring gear on the top of the motor is seated on a thrust bearing that transmits all vertical thrust to the motor mounting plate. In fact, if the three flat-headed screws holding the prop pitch motor to its mounting plate are removed, the plate may be attached permanently to the tower as a thrust bearing. The bevel gear and supporting pipe will now drop directly into the thrust bearing of the plate, and the motor may be raised into position beneath the plate and held in place by the flat head screws, plus several $\frac{1}{4}$-28 machine bolts. If it is desired to remove the motor, it may easily be done by removing these bolts and screws and allowing the motor to drop a few inches to disengage the spline drive. The mounting plate and ring gear remain permanently attached to the tower (*Fig. 2*).

The supporting pipe should not be less than $1\frac{1}{4}$" outside diameter and not be over ten feet long, or a bad axial twist in the pipe will develop when the beam is rotated. The pipe must have at least one intermediate support bearing to prevent bowing of the pipe under heavy wind loads on the beam. (*Figure 1*). The supporting pipe may be fastened to the bevel ring gear by means of a simple coupling (*Fig. 3*). The supporting pipe may be screwed into the coupling and then pinned by a $\frac{1}{4}$–28 bolt as shown. To remove the pipe, merely take out the retaining bolt and unscrew the pipe.

The intermediate support bearing may consist of a loose-fit sleeve attached to the mast. It should be adjustable in a horizontal plane to compensate for variations in the mount. A suggested bearing is shown in *Fig. 4*. The four turnbuckles may be adjusted to provide an even tension on the rotating pipe. They should be tightened and safety-wired to prevent them from working loose.

The bearing at the top of the tower may consist simply of a plate cut to fit the tower with a hole drilled in the center of it to pass the rotating pipe. The plate should be at least $\frac{1}{4}$" thick to prevent cutting of the pipe. This plate may be made of wood instead of metal if desired. No elaborate bearing is needed at this point.

Rotating Mechanism

If you will get out your copy of August, 1949 *CQ*, and turn to page 20, you will find that W6MUO, Dick Saunders, has all the answers regarding an excellent rotating system. When I first installed my prop-pitch motor I soon noticed an S9 power noise in my receiver that would come on the air shortly after I had fired up the rig and turned the beam "the long way," preparatory to the pre-breakfast band combing. The noise would completely blank out 14 mc, leaving me nothing to do except read the funnies and do the daily crossword puzzle in the paper. One day I noticed that the noise would not come on until I *turned* my antenna. If I went on the air without rotating my beam, all was quiet and serene! But as soon as I turned on the rotating device, the noise would shortly appear in all its pristine glory. Well, I soon found out that my nextdoor neighbor liked to sleep later than 5 a.m. and was getting very

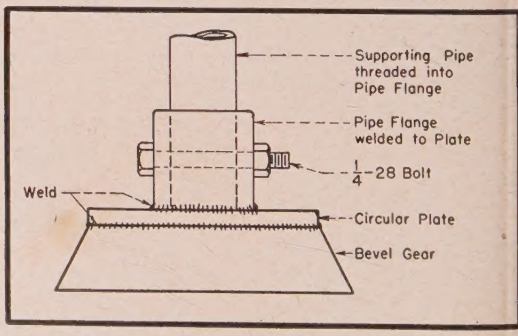


Fig. 3. The antenna-supporting pipe should be both welded and pinned to the bevel gear when the prop pitch motor is used.

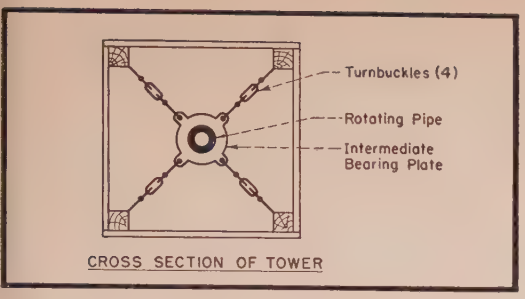


Fig. 4. Here is a suggested structure for the intermediate support bearing. The turnbuckles permit the rotating pipe to be centered in the tower.

touchy at being aroused each morning by the screeching whine of the prop-pitch motor as I aimed my beam "down the slot" at 225° west. This joker, upon being awakened, would stride into his bathroom, plug in his electric razor, take an asprin and go back to bed, leaving the razor running until 8 a.m. or so!

Being naturally a bright lad, I soon got the idea and re-worked the motor à la W6MUO, and now all is well. I might suggest, however, that if you are planning an array of any size that you make a slight modification in Mr. Saunders design, to wit:

Dick chucks the bell gear (M) in a lathe and cuts the internal gear off just *inside* the ring of holes encircling the gear. I suggest that you cut the teeth off just *outside* these holes, say $\frac{1}{4}$" away, thus leaving the ring of holes on the center section of the bell gear (*Fig. 5*). Now, if the bell gear is dropped over the differential gear, it will be seen that the three large $\frac{7}{8}$" holes in the differential gear fall in axial alignment with the holes drilled in the bell gear. Three special off-center pins can be turned easily in a lathe that will engage the three holes in the bell gear with those in the differential gear (*Fig. 6*). The three pins may be fastened to the differential gear by means of $\frac{1}{4}$–28 bolts tapped through the side wall of the gear frame. The bell gear will now drop over these off-center pins and provide a very strong power transfer. The danger of using common bolts at this point is that there is a tendency for the bolts to work loose in the soft aluminum of the differential gear. These special pins solve this problem very nicely. Since you need a lathe to cut the bell gear, anyway, you might as well turn out the pins and do the job up brown. Right?

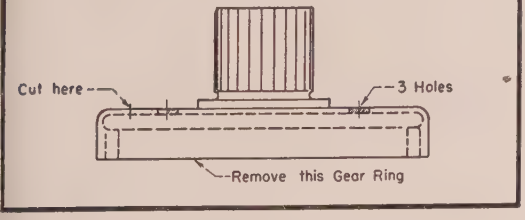


Fig. 5. The modification of the bell gear in the prop pitch motor.

Beam Mounting Assembly

The beam mounting assembly should provide a rigid junction between the beam and the rotating pipe. It should also provide a means of raising and lowering the beam. A practical system is shown in *Fig. 7* and the photo. A sheet of cold-rolled-steel 10" × 15" (A) is butt-welded to the rotation pipe (C). Four short pieces of angle iron (B) are welded as braces from the pipe to the corners of the steel plate. Be sure the plate is truly horizontal with respect to the vertical pipe; this determines the plane of the antenna. Any deviation of the plate from the horizontal will tilt the beam from the proper horizontal plane. Two pieces of 2" × 2" dural angle stock 26" long (D)

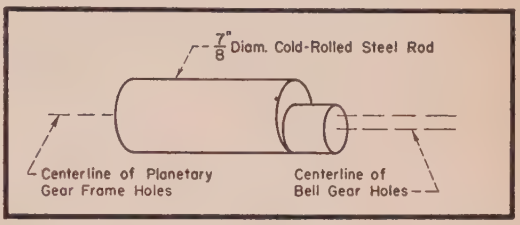


Fig. 6. Off-center pins are needed for the bell gear, as explained in the text.

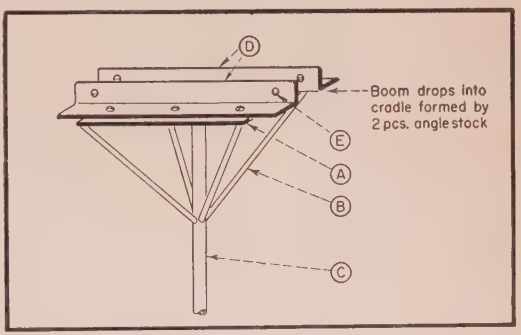
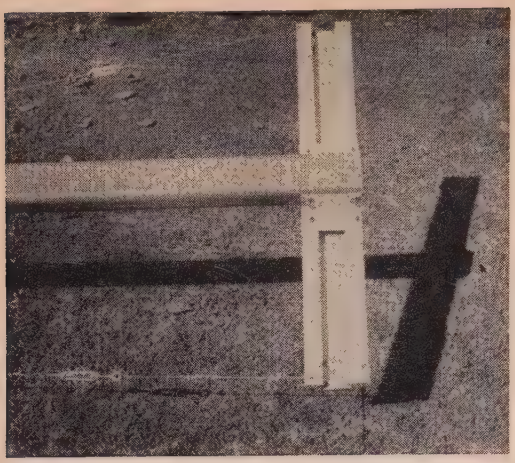


Fig. 7. The beam mounting assembly sits atop the rotating pipe. A little careful work here makes the beam much easier to put up or take down.

are bolted to the steel plate. The separation between these pieces should be just enough so that the supporting boom of the antenna can drop easily in between them. This will form a cradle support for the antenna. The two angle pieces are now drilled through at their respective ends with a $\frac{1}{4}$" hole (E). These holes should line up so a $\frac{1}{4}$–28 bolt may pass through them. The boom should now be placed in position in the cradle and drilled to match the holes in the angle stock. When the two bolts are in place, a rigid union is provided. If it is desired to lower the beam, one bolt may be removed and the beam tilted downwards, using the other bolt as a hinge. When the beam is securely roped, the second bolt may be removed, and "down she comes!"

The Antenna Framework

The beam described here is the offspring of four previous models, all basically alike, but differing in many small details. The object of the



One of the reflector (or director) supporting sections, showing the fastening of the umbrella guys.

evolution was to develop a structure that would be light and easy to handle (30 pounds), but at the same time be rugged enough to stand severe winds and inclement weather.

The boom consists of two twelve foot lengths of square dural tubing, approximately 2″ × 4″ on

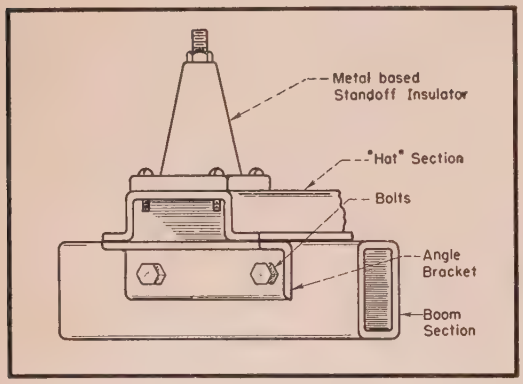


Fig. 8. The element mounting assembly. It is a good idea to use really long screws atop the standoff insulator.

sides, with a wall thickness of .125″. A telescoping piece of tubing was found (after a *long* hunt), and this is inserted at the center of the two pieces, which are then bolted together to form a rigid, twenty-four foot boom. A short section of ½″ water pipe is flanged to the boom at the center and is used as a support for two top umbrella guys. Each section of the guy is electrically broken by strain insulators, and contains a turnbuckle to be used in levelling the boom. The photo illustrates the beam mounting plate attached to the boom, the top guys, and supporting pipe. The driven-element support may also be seen. It consists of a five-foot piece of "hat section" dural, onto which are bolted four metal-based standoff insulators. *Fig. 8* illustrates this support in section. The hat section is tapped for the four 10–32 screws that hold the insulators. It, in turn, is held to the boom by two short pieces of 2″ × 2″ dural angle stock, as shown. The reflector and directo "hats" have holes drilled at their extremeties t receive the umbrella guys. The whole assembl is held to the boom by two long ¼–28 bolts tha pass through both brackets and the boom. To re move an element, merely remove these two bolt and open the two turnbuckles, and the elemen comes clear.

In this way, the beam may be tilted and the re flector and director easily removed. However, th complete beam is so light that it is as easy t lower the whole beam as it is to remove an ele ment!

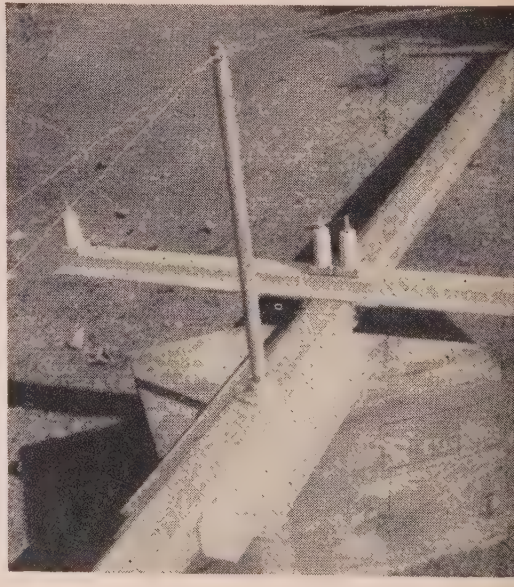
The Elements

Each element is composed of three 14′ telescoping pieces of dural tubing. The center piece is 1⅝″ diameter, with a .050″ wall, and the two tip pieces are 1½″ diameter with a .050″ or .032″ wall. Either 24ST or 52ST may be used. The center section is slotted at each end for a foot or so, and an aircraft cable clamp is slid over the tubing and tightened after all adjustments are completed.

The beam mounting plate.

During the past year or so I have helped to take down my share of beam antennas, and I have noticed that invariably there is bad corrosion at the joints of the dural tubes. On one fellow's beam this corrosion was so bad that it was impossible to

(Continued on page 63)



The beam mounting plate attached to the boom, illustrating the top guys and the method of mounting the support for the driven element.

The Traffic Midget

WILLIAM E. JOHNSON, W8VOK*

Here's a complete 80-meter c.w. station in a single box not much bigger than a shoe box. If you have space problems, or if you want to give that DX rock-crusher a rest, this is your dish.

THIS ARTICLE DESCRIBES A LOW POWER TRANSmitter and a six tube receiver, assembled as a complete package.

The need for a station of this type is well appreciated by the apartment dweller whose space is at a premium. This station is also valuable for portable operation.

When attempting to design a station in the limited space available, several factors must be considered. The power input of the final amplifier cannot be too great, as the power supply would require too much space. As low power is to be used, it is necessary to use a variable frequency oscillator. The circuit decided upon utilizes a power input of 25 watts to the final amplifier.

The transmitter and receiver are designed to work in the 80-meter band, although plug-in coils are utilized and the station could be operated on 160 or 40 meters with slight changes in the tuned circuits.

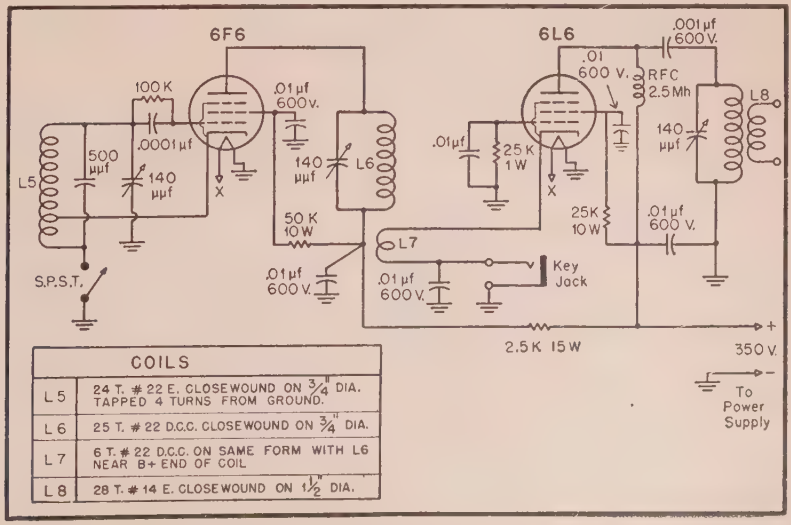
The transmitter employs only two tubes. A 6F6 in an electron-coupled oscillator whose grid is tuned to the 160 meter band and whose plate is fixed-tuned to the center of the 80-meter c.w. band. The plate circuit of the oscillator, having been adjusted once, requires no further attention over the entire band. The final amplifier uses a 6L6 in an inverted cathode circuit, which requires no neutralization and is foolproof. Anyone who has spent hours attempting to get a 6L6 to operate as a power amplifier in a conventional circuit without going into self oscillation will appreciate this application of the 6L6.

The receiver uses a 6K8 first detector and oscillator, 6SG7 first and second intermediate frequency amplifiers, a 6SQ7 second detector and first audio amplifier, a 6C4 beat frequency oscillator, and a 6F6 audio output feeding a 5-inch speaker.

* *18839 Schoenherr Rd., Detroit 5, Mich.*

Receiver Details

The receiver is a conventional superheterodyne, as shown by the wiring diagram. It utilizes an i.f. frequency of 2.8 megacycles. It is realized that by using a high i.f. frequency the selectivity is not as good as that obtained with one of lower frequency, but the choice was made to eliminate images within the ham band, as no radio fre-



COILS	
L 5	24 T. # 22 E. CLOSEWOUND ON 3/4" DIA. TAPPED 4 TURNS FROM GROUND.
L 6	25 T. # 22 D.C.C. CLOSEWOUND ON 3/4" DIA.
L 7	6 T. # 22 D.C.C. ON SAME FORM WITH L6 NEAR B+ END OF COIL
L 8	28 T. # 14 E. CLOSEWOUND ON 1 1/2" DIA.

The circuit diagram of the transmitter.

There are a lot of parts below the chassis, but a close look should convince you that everything is readily accessible.

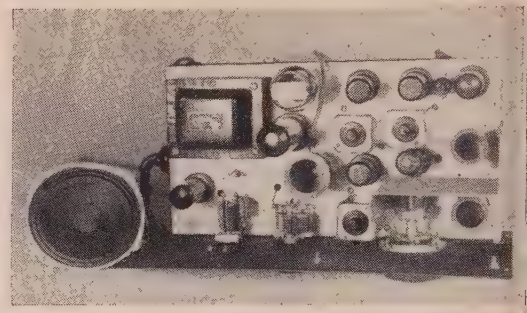
quency amplifier is employed. The entire 80-meter band is spread out over 58 of the 100 divisions of the dial. This calibrated dial controls the high frequency oscillator, while the mixer is tuned by the control directly under the calibrated oscillator dial. The mixer condenser has to be peaked about every 50 kilocycles for optimum results. The i.f. transformers were obtained as surplus from the 6-9 mc aircraft receiver series. These transformers were available in the local surplus center here at reasonable cost. There was one important change made in the i.f. transformer coupling into the 6SQ7 second detector. The surplus transformer was originally designed to operate into a triode detector, and, as the 6SQ7 is used as a diode detector, a change had to be made in the last i.f. transformer.

Figure 1 shows the original hookup of the transformer to be altered. The trimmer condenser is grounded to one of the four supporting uprights of the transformer. This ground connection is satisfactory when a triode second detector is employed. But in our case a diode was desired, so this upright had to be removed and a wire soldered to the rotor of the trimmer and then connected to the bottom end of the i.f. secondary coil, as shown in *Fig.* 1.

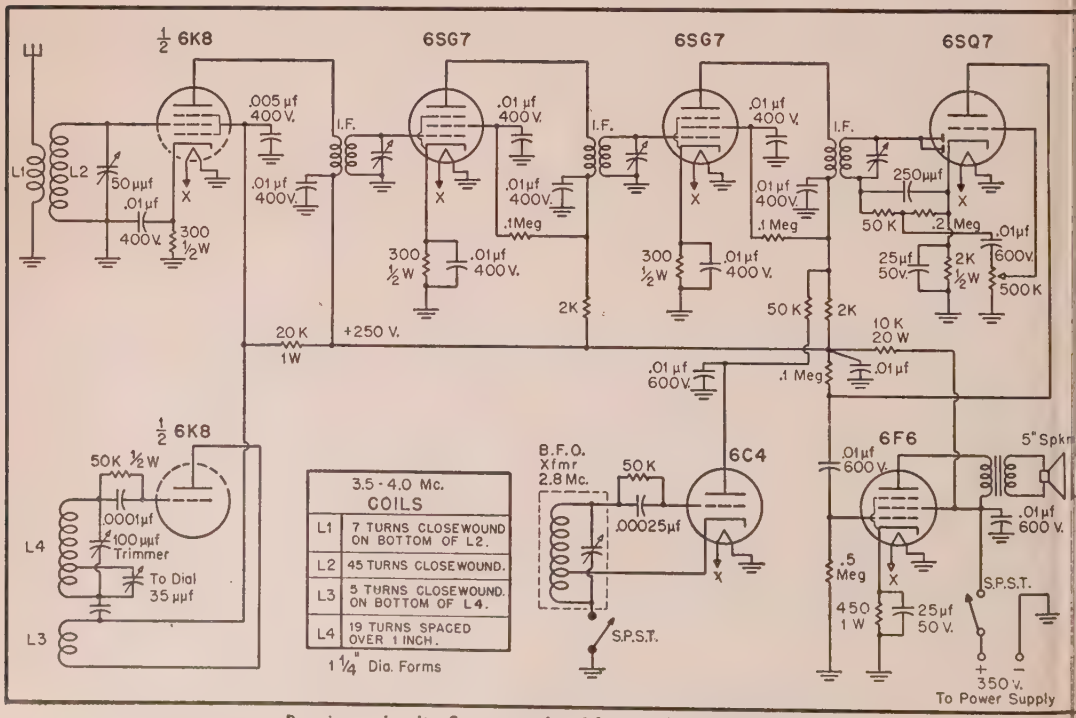
The control to the left of the mixer condenser is the volume control, and the switch to the right of the mixer control is the b.f.o. switch. The omission of an automatic volume control was intentional, as the receiver was designed for c.w. use only.

The transmitter utilizes a 6F6 as an electron-

(Continued on page 61)



Looking down at the "business" from the top, the receiver occupies most of the right half of the chassis while the transmitter and the power supply share the left side.



Receiver circuit. See text for i.f. transformer details.

The Ham and Public Relations

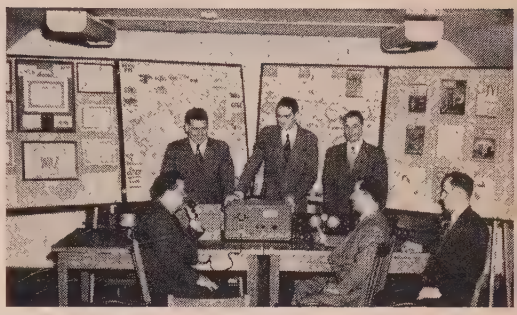
THE MICHIANA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.*

IN HARMONY WITH PRESENT PLANS of the Armed Services and various civic minded groups, the Michiana Amateur Radio Club, Inc. of South Bend, Indiana, has undertaken a public relations program which has as its prime purpose the perpetuation and encouragement of amateur radio. It is striving to accomplish this purpose by presenting an informative and entertaining program to the various civic and service organizations in the Michiana area. This area includes South Bend and surrounding towns, which are all within fringe area TV range of Chicago. Already results have been realized which are tending to create better understanding between the ham fraternity and TV viewers, to interest potential hobbyists in amateur radio, and to attract the attention of the community at large as to how the amateurs actually serve the public. Since the results of the Club's public relations venture have been so gratifying, it is believed that others around the country would appreciate knowing the means by which these results are being realized.

The programs are performed by seven licensed club members comprising the Public Relations Committee. The program is generally divided into three parts: first, a thirty-minute talk by the narrator on the history of ham radio and how it serves the public; secondly, an explanation of a silent display which consists of various pieces of ham-built equipment and two portable bulletin boards upon which are affixed various items of documentary evidence of ham radio; and thirdly, an actual demonstration of ham radio at work. The third item is the most dramatic part of the program and serves to drive home the preceding informative bits. It is executed by two mobile units and a portable station placed on a table near the front of the meeting room. One member operates the receiver and the other the transmitter. All operations are confined to the ten meter phone band. As an aid in snappy operating, all stations are on a single frequency.

* *South Bend, Indiana*

W9ZIB points out his mobile equipment used for the demonstration to W9MYI, a mobile fan himself.



The Publicity Committee and the portable display. Illustrated are (l. to r.) Vice-President W9MYE, Secretary W9PDF, Narrator W9PDS, President W9WRH, Treasurer W9BYY, and W9MYI.

Since the above general description would be of little assistance to one interested in duplicating this program, a brief outline will be made of each of the three program parts.

The first phase contains the entire message to be conveyed, and the two following phases provide both proof of statements and entertainment for the assembly. It is pointed out that the first two-way transatlantic communication was carried on by amateurs and that much of the early development in radio was due to the efforts of hams. A definition of the amateur radio operator is given, taking special care in pointing out that usually the amateur is so called because he is a hobbyist taking part without pay, and that he is not a novice as the name might imply to the layman. Anecdotes are given telling how hams have helped in time of emergency and how the armed services have genuinely appreciated what amateur radio meant to our war and defense efforts. Mention is made of how hams are born through examination and licensing by the FCC and of the various local, national, and international organizations of hams. Other items are presented, but these listed will certainly give the reader an idea of how the public service angle is emphasized and the hobby aspect brought in as a possible second in importance. The first phase is completed with a discussion of causes and remedies for BCI and TVI. A general discussion terminated with a few specific examples of cases have proven very enlightening to those addressed. In every case all misapprehension concerning the ham and TVI has been cleared up in the mind of the set owner addressed. Servicemen, too, who have heard the discussion report success in dealing with cases of TVI due to the ham through their mutual understanding of the problem and the application of the proper filters.

(Continued on page 62)

An Economical 10-Meter Mobile Phone Transmitter

WAYNE W. COOPER, W8EWC*

If you're looking for something both compact and economical to install in the family chariot for the pleasant days ahead, here's a little rig which will fill the bill.

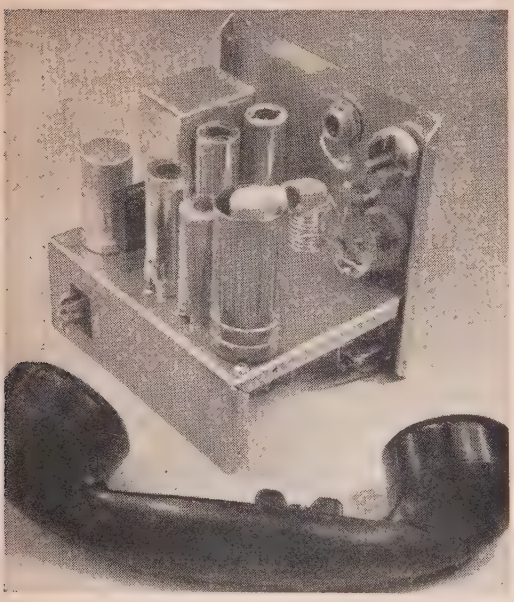
THIS TRANSMITTER was designed to give the maximum power output and efficiency in a minimum of space and weight, making it an ideal transmitter for portable/mobile operation.

The transmitter is designed for complete push-to-talk operation. The plate and filament supply, the microphone, and starting contactor come on when the push-to-talk switch is depressed. This makes for economy in operation since there is no standby power consumption. To meet this requirement, "quick heating" filament-type tubes are used. The complement includes a 2E24 final amplifier, 2E30 Tri-tet oscillator-doubler, and push-pull 2E30s in Class AB as modulators.

The Tri-tet type oscillator-doubler is used with a 14.5 mc crystal, and the output is tuned to 29 mc. The usual circuit had to be modified to use direct heating filament-type tubes. A dual-wound 1-μhy inductance, L_1, is used in the filament leads to replace the normal cathode coil, and the 29-mc output transformer, L_2-L_3, is slug-tuned.

No extra capacity is used across this circuit as it is considered that the sum of the output capacity of the 2E30 and the input capacity of the 2E24 is adequate for 29-mc band doubler operation. The final amplifier is connected through a parasitic suppressor consisting of a 100-ohm non-inductive resistor.

* *311 Shawnee Path, Akron 5, Ohio*



A pretty good idea of the size of the transmitter can be had from this view. The layout of the output circuit is apparent.

The output tank circuit is conventional, and the final amplifier tube is connected through a small parasitic choke directly at the plate cap. The tank coil is air-wound and supported by the terminals of the tank condenser. The r.f. bypass condenser is made as large as possible, not only to reduce the r.f. impedance to ground, but also to reduce the audio frequency response above 2500 cycles. The antenna is tapped directly on the tank coil through a variable coupling capacitor to a low impedance transmission line or antenna. The tank coil is wound with enough inductance so that a minimum of external capacity is required. This keeps the losses low.

The Modulator

The two type 2E30 tubes in the modulator are operated in Class AB. A small 22½-volt hearing aid battery is used to supply most of the bias. This bias source will last the shelf life of the battery as no current is being drawn. The modulator tubes are driven directly by a single-button carbon microphone. A Signal Corps type TS-13 handset is used in this installation. With 6 volts on the microphone the current is around 50 ma. This is slightly low, but the additional complication of adding a microphone battery is avoided. The voltage drive is adequate for 100% modulation using a normal speaking voice.

The front panel layout has been kept simple and uncluttered with knobs and dials. This is desirable, because it discourages unauthorized tampering with the controls. Besides the tuning and loading controls, which are screw driver adjustments, there are four jacks; microphone, oscillator, plate, amplifier grid, and final/modulator plate current.

All the metal work is of 1/16" soft aluminum. The chassis is bent L-shaped, 5" × 6" × 2⅛", and attached to a 6" × 6" front panel. The general layout of parts can be seen from the accompanying photograph which can be used as a guide. Top, bottom, back and side panels are bent up using the same material and type of construction. One-quarter inch 4–40 screws are used to hold the shielded box together, and the panels are tapped to receive them.

The oscillator filament coil, L_1, is dual wound on a mandrel, which is then removed and the coil heavily doped with DuPont cement. It is rigidly supported by its leads on a small terminal strip.

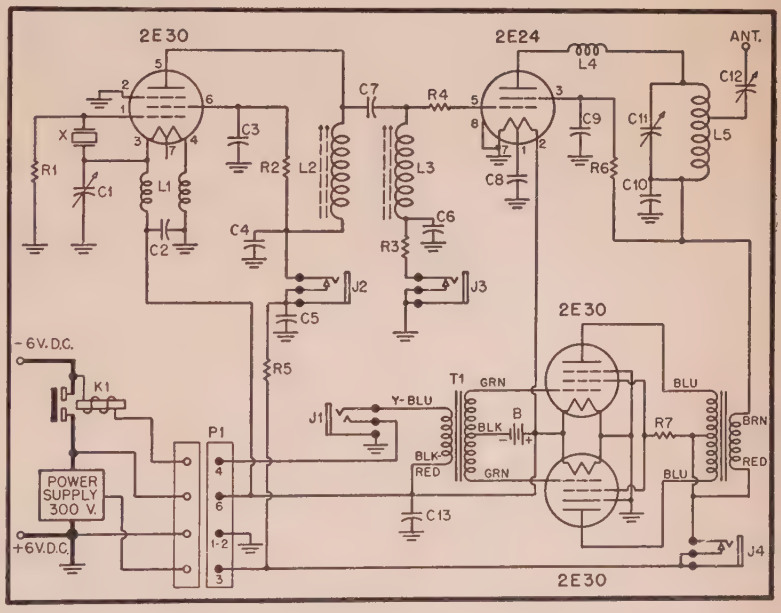
The oscillator-to-final coupling transformer, as specified in the parts list, is a special commercial item and may not be easily obtained. A coil of approximately 15 turns, #18 enameled wire, wound on a National XR-50 slug-tuned form and mounted under the chassis in the same relative position may be substituted. It should be connected in place of L_2, and R_3 should be connected to the junction of C_7 and R_4. L_3 is eliminated, and C_6 is removed.

Another special item is the combination microphone and modulation transformer. The transformer listed can be obtained as a spare part item from some dealers in surplus equipment. Standard separate midget transformers of the same characteristics can be substituted. They can be mounted so that no increase in chassis sizes is required.

All bypass condensers are mounted directly at the point they are to bypass to ground. This reduces stray coupling that would result if condensers were mounted on a terminal board and leads brought to them. It will be appreciated that if, for instance, the bypass condenser to a coil is connected to it by a few inches of wire, this wire will be part of, and add to, the inductance of the coil. At high frequencies—a few inches of hook-up wire will often have almost as much inductance as the coil itself.

The six-connector male Jones socket on the back of the chassis is for the power leads to the power supply and the control circuit. The power requirements are 300 volts d.c. at 200 ma and 6.3 v. d.c. If it is desirable to use a.c. on the filaments in some installations, separate connections may be brought out for a microphone battery. In addition, the bias battery will have to be returned to ground instead of to the negative side of the filament.

To place in operation, the oscillator-doubler is tuned up in the conventional manner, i.e. the filament condenser is tuned from the minimum capacity side for maximum stable output. The doubler transformer is adjusted for maximum final grid current. An open plug should be inserted in the final/modulator plate current jack so that no current will be drawn by these tubes while these adjustments are being made. In addition, for the initial tune-up, the modulator tubes should be removed so that the current drawn by the final can be checked separately. If a modulation transformer other than the one specified is used, it might be advisable to connect the jack so that only the final amplifier current is read. After the final amplifier is tuned up, the modulator tubes can be reinserted and the modulation checked by an oscilloscope or other means under normal operating conditions.



C1—100 μμf, variable midget.
C2, C3, C4, C6, C8, C9—.001 μf, 500 v. molded mica.
C5—10 μf 400 v. electrolytic, part of C13, Sprague 7476442-2.
C7—50 μμf, 500 v. molded mica.
C10—.01 μf 500 v. molded mica.
C11, C12—50 μμf, variable midget, APC-50.
C13—20-20 μf, 50 v. electrolytic, part of C5.
J1—Two-circuit microphone jack.
J2, J3, J4—Closed-circuit jack, insulated.
K1—Single-circuit 25A contacts, 6 v. coil contactor.
L1—11 turns ¾" dia. #20 enameled wire, see text.
L2, L3—GE Type 7479124-1 transformer with padders removed.
L4—7½ turns ½" dia. #20 cambric covered.
L5—10 turns ¾" dia. #14 tinned wire, tapped 4 turns down.
P1—6-contact Jones male connector.
R1, R3—100K ½ w.
R2—10K 1 w.
R4—100 ohms, ½ w. carbon.
R5—1K 2 w.
R6—4.3K 2 w.
R7—5.6K 1 w.
T1—single-button carbon microphone to push-pull grids.
T2—Class B modulator output, part of T1, GE Type T477744-1.
X—20-meter crystal.
B—Hearing aid battery, 22½V-2½" x 1¼" x ⅞"

A Beginner's Transmitter for the 160-Meter Band

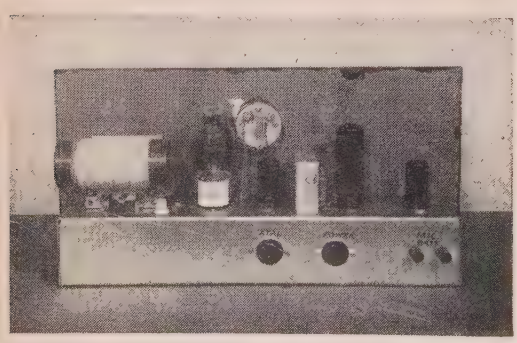
CLINTON CLARK, W1KLS*

The fact that most of the commercially-built ham rigs don't go below 3.5 mc is no reason for not using 160 a lot more than we're using it now. Clint Clark shows how he did it without straining the budget.

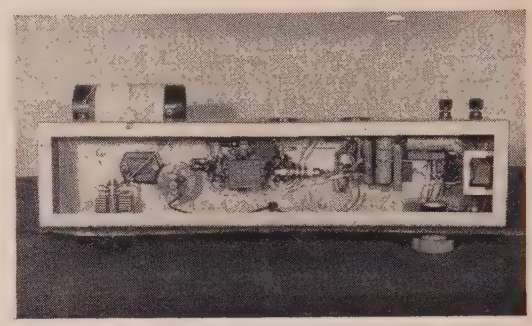
THE REOPENING OF THE 160-METER BAND for all amateurs presents some opportunities for the beginner and the old-timer as well. It may well be the first phone band for the beginner, since a very simple, low-powered outfit is perfectly feasible. The need for frequency multiplication that is the necessary evil for ten, six, and two meters is eliminated on this band because only a relatively simple oscillator-amplifier is necessary. Practically all of the bugs that beset the operator who chooses the v.h.f. (144 mc and higher) for his field of operation are by-passed on this low frequency. For the old-timer who is already established on the other low-frequency bands, this may well be the means of renewing old acquaintances and forming new ones of a local nature. (The author recalls the old days of self-excited oscillators on five meters and making friends with the local boys—fellows that we didn't even know existed until we met them on the air.) A compact, low-powered rig will work locals fb and also has the advantage of holding down QRM and giving the other fellow a break. TVI problems are either not met with or easily eliminated on this band. As for dx, why bother with dx when real dx is so easily obtainable on other bands?

With the preceding ideas in mind, the author dug into the junkbox, and the outfit presented herewith is the result. With the exception of the new chassis, practically all of the other components should be items that would be found in the average junkbox. The power supply that will be required may be a pretty modest affair, such as one built up from the parts of a broadcast receiver of the heavy duty type. A supply furnishing between 300 and 400 volts at about 150 milliamperes is a common one and would be suitable to power this rig. All in all, the whole outfit can be a very economical layout and, for the investment involved, should provide many pleasant hours of local rag-chewing.

* *22 Webster Street, Middleboro, Mass.*



The rear view of the transmitter, illustrating, (l. to r.) final tank assembly, the 6L6GX amplifier, oscillator stage, modulation choke, modulator, and the speech amplifier tube. Compactness is the keynote.



The elongated chassis is admirably suited for short leads and adequate spacing between r.f. and low-level audio components. Wiring is no problem.

The Circuit

The r.f. portion of the transmitter will be recognized as a 6C5 Pierce oscillator and a 6L6G or 6L6GX as an amplifier. This combination is a time-tried lineup and is practically bugfree. The oscillator will work well on all crystals that are the type designed to give output on the fundamental. Since this stage requires no tuned circuits, simplicity of operation is easily attained. The final amplifier has a built-in pi network for tuning the final and coupling to almost any length of wire. No neutralization is required, since the grid circuit is untuned and is loaded by the oscillator. For local work the antenna problem can be boiled down to the use of almost any skywire that is up at present or by running a random piece of wire to a handy tree. This will be a relief to the ham who has an aversion to coping with the antenna problems of some of the higher frequency bands.

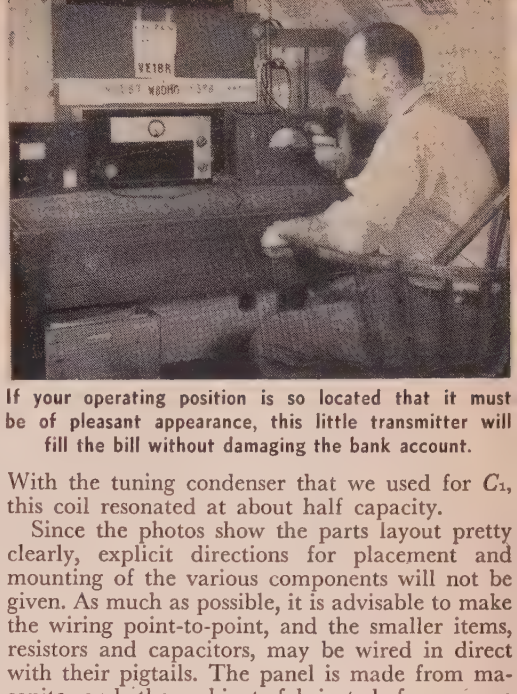
The audio section of the transmitter is really pretty elementary, consisting of single stage of speech (sufficient, when using a single button carbon mike) into a 6L6 employed as a Heising modulator. This type of modulation has the high voltage feed to the final pass through a filter which performs the dual purpose of acting as a plate load for the 6L6 modulator and also keeping

audio voltage out of the power supply. Audio frequency is thus imposed on the r.f. carrier and intelligence is transmitted. More than ample power is obtained, and the gain control can usually be run at a pretty low setting for ample pickup for a T-17B mike when talking close. Using a telephone-type mike, the gain may be advanced and the microphone set on the operating table for convenience.

Referring to the circuit diagram, it will be observed that an intermediate value of B voltage is needed for supplying the oscillator plate, as well as the speech tube. This is obtained from the bleeder on the power supply and is adjusted for correct value under load. The standby switch is incorporated in the power supply proper, and not on the transmitter; it is a fairly well insulated s.p.s.t. toggle and is placed in the center-tap of the power transformer. This method may be varied to the individual and his particular setup of power supply arrangement.

Construction

As will be observed from the photos, the entire rig is assembled on a chassis base of the dimensions 17″ wide 4″ deep, and 3″ high. This is a standard item (Bud Radio No. CB-1066) and is the same type that is used for a popular all-band exciter unit. The "linear" arrangement makes for short leads and placement of parts in close proximity to each other. Looking at the rear view of the assembly, the tube lineup, starting at the right, is 6C5 speech, 6L6 modulator, 6C5 xtal oscillator, and 6L6GX final amplifier. The modulation choke is mounted between the 6L6 modulator and the oscillator. The final amplifier coil and condenser are at the extreme left of the chassis. The coil form is 2″ diameter and 4½″ long, which allows ample room for the winding, which consists of approximately 75 turns of No. 22 or 20 DCC. This wire happened to be available, but if enameled, or DSC, is on hand this could be used just as well.



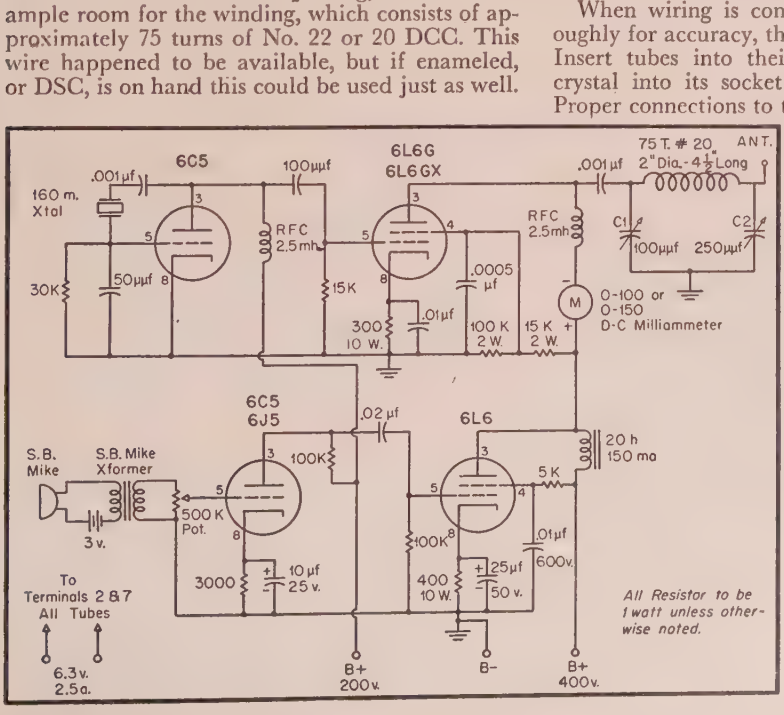
If your operating position is so located that it must be of pleasant appearance, this little transmitter will fill the bill without damaging the bank account.

With the tuning condenser that we used for C_1, this coil resonated at about half capacity.

Since the photos show the parts layout pretty clearly, explicit directions for placement and mounting of the various components will not be given. As much as possible, it is advisable to make the wiring point-to-point, and the smaller items, resistors and capacitors, may be wired in direct with their pigtails. The panel is made from masonite and the cabinet fabricated from some selected boxboards. Decoration in the form of the light colored strip across the top and down at the right was done with aluminum paint, it being accurately aligned with masking tape. The battery which furnishes current for the microphone may be a couple of flashlight batteries in series, or a 4½-volt C battery makes a good compact source.

When wiring is completed and checked thoroughly for accuracy, the little rig may be fired up. Insert tubes into their proper sockets and the crystal into its socket on the chassis backdrop. Proper connections to the power supply should be made and the microphone battery connected to the binding posts provided. The author brought his power connections into the chassis via a homemade cable and an old tube base which plugs into the socket on the chassis backdrop. Not indicated on the circuit diagram is the fact that the microphone connection is made by means of a phone plug which is inserted into a single-circuit jack on the front panel. Use of a single-circuit jack means that every time the station is shut down, the mike plug

(Con't. on page 60)



A Senior-Grade 807 Transmitter

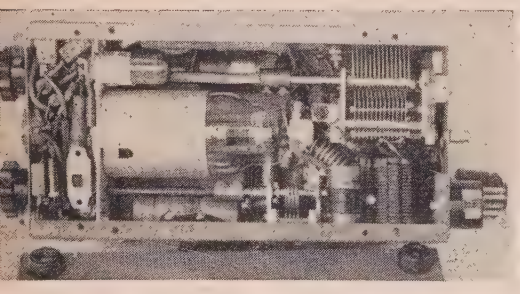
EDWIN W. HILL, W4PQA*

A compact 40- to 60-watt bandswitching ham rig featuring stability, versatility, and excellent signal quality.

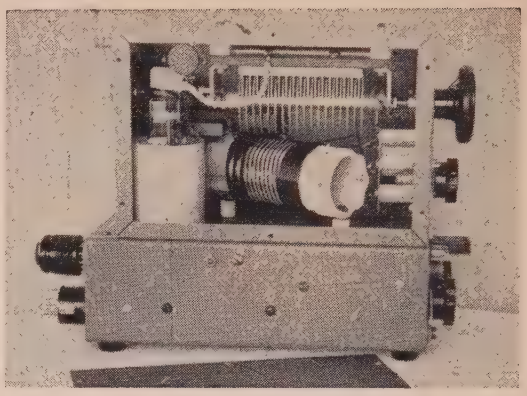
AMONG AMATEURS, THE 807 is probably the most universally used transmitting tube type in the world. If properly handled, it is capable of giving almost unmatched performance from the standpoint of economy, reliability, and circuit simplicity. Unfortunately, the 807 has gained somewhat of a reputation of being only a beginner's tube, and just because it has become so popular with the newcomer, who more often than not uses it in a way that unavoidably leads to trouble, it has been condemned more than once as being tricky and hard to handle. That this is a fallacy is demonstrated by this transmitter which uses 807s in *two* cascade amplifier stages and yet is completely free from the parasitic oscillations and instability so commonly associated with beam tetrode circuits. It is, in fact, the sweetest operating rig that it has been the author's experience to construct.

Modern design trends are incorporated in this transmitter. Bandswitching is used throughout, and it is well shielded as a help against TVI. Once the last adjustments have been made and the sides of the cabinet fastened in place, all operations are controlled from the front panel, and there is no possibility of accidental electrical shock. Four ham bands, from 3.5 to 21 mc, are available at the flick of a switch, and output on all bands is possible with just one crystal. If desired, output on the 21-mc band may be dispensed with in favor of operation in the 28-mc band. Between these limits the output is good and operation efficient. Although the rig contains several circuit features that are quite novel, construction is neither complicated nor particularly difficult, and any ham who has had the experience of putting together his first transmitter or two should be able to duplicate it without trouble. The essential thing is to treat the little 807s, construction-wise with the same respect and careful attention to sound practice that is given to their higher-powered counterparts.

* *Chief Engineer, WDHL, Box 1191, Bradenton, Fla.*



The bottom view with the bottom plate removed. The intermediate 807 and the 6C4 oscillator are shown mounted on a baffle plate. The method of mounting of the tuning condensers and coils is shown. The small binding post at the rear of the transmitter is for grounding purposes.



Looking at the right side of the rig with the cover plate off. The final amplifier plate circuit components and the band-switching details are clearly shown.

Shielding Considerations

The first consideration is shielding, and lack of attention to this is the source of all subsequent difficulties with many 807 rigs. Tube manuals tell us that the 807 must be "adequately" shielded. This means just what it says, and merely putting a half-shield on the tube and a baffle plate here and there is not adequate shielding in any sense of the term. The power sensitivity of the 807 is tremendous, and the input circuits must be entirely isolated from the output circuits. The only way this can be done is by very tight shielding. Like it or not, the day of the "open" ham transmitter is over, particularly with the number of TV viewers increasing by leaps and bounds.

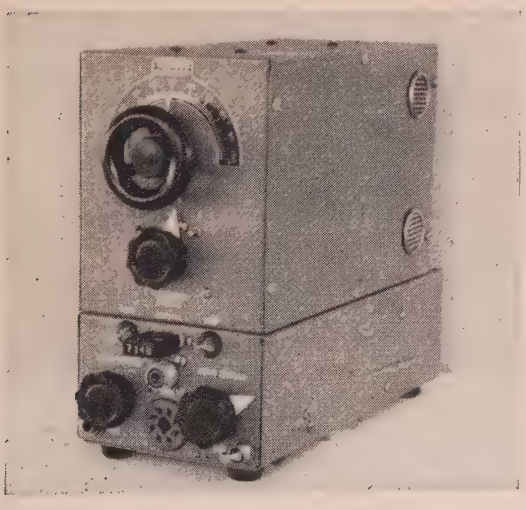
Very efficient shielding, as well as mechanically rugged and physically attractive construction, is secured in this transmitter by mounting a standard $5'' \times 9'' \times 6''$ steel utility cabinet on top of a $5'' \times 10'' \times 3''$ chassis. The top compartment contains only the output plate circuit components of the final amplifier. These are the final tank condenser, which is insulated from the cabinet; the

tapped final plate coil; the bandswitch; and the r.f. plate choke and bypass condenser. The upper portion of the final 807 extends into this compartment, but a hole is drilled in both cabinet and chassis and the socket for the 807 is sunk-mounted so that the lower (input) part of the tube is in the lower compartment. In this way, the shielding between output and input circuits is complete. A half-shield is also put around the tube in accordance with standard practice. The result is a final amplifier which is absolutely stable and shows no sign of self-oscillation, with or without excitation.

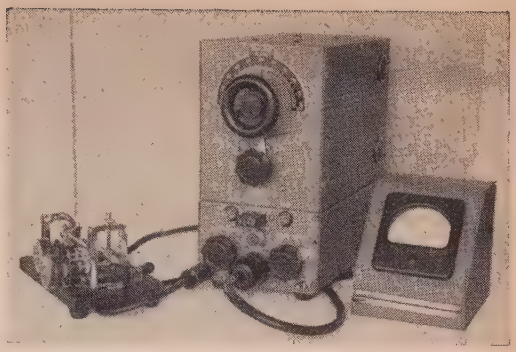
The lower compartment, or chassis, holds the 807 intermediate amplifier and the crystal oscillator. In this case, a shielding plate is used to mount the 807 in a horizontal position, and this plate, combined with the bottom plate of the chassis, forms another effective shielding arrangement. This 807 is just as stable as the final amplifier and cannot be made to oscillate under any conditions.

The Circuit

Now for the circuit details. Reading the circuit diagram from left to right, we come first to the crystal oscillator. This is a triode oscillator of the "hot cathode" Pierce type and uses a 6C4, which is mounted horizontally alongside the 807. This oscillator works well, with low crystal current, and is easy to get going. It has the advantage over other Pierce Circuits that one side of the crystal may be grounded. The only critical component is the mica feedback condenser between grid and cathode. The tube will not oscillate without this condenser, and in this particular layout the optimum value was found to be 68 μμf. The oscillator keys well, but it might be well to experiment with this condenser for best results. The author does not like oscillator keying; however, either oscillator or amplifier keying is optional in this rig and may be selected by means of the slide switch mounted on the bottom plate. The plate potential on the 6C4 is about 115 volts under operating conditions. A regulated voltage is used, but this refinement is not absolutely necessary. A s.p.s.t. toggle switch, which is the one in the lower right corner of the front of the transmitter, turns the oscillator off for listening on your own frequency or when VFO input is used. Crystals are plugged in on the front panel so that frequency changing is a handy process.



This shows all the operating controls. The handwheel is the final tank tuning condenser. Immediately below this is the band switch for the final amplifier. The crystal plugs in between the two pilot light plate-current indicators. The coax fitting for VFO input is just below the crystal, and the meter socket is below the VFO input. The two pointer-knobs tune the two intermediate amplifier tank circuits.



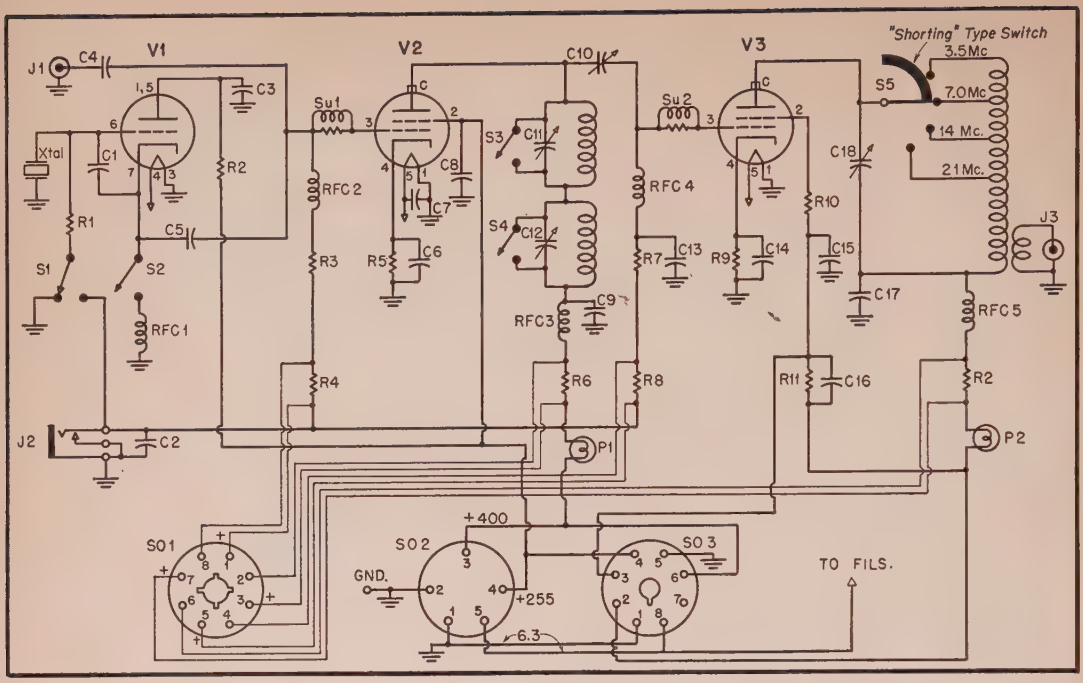
A view of the transmitter with its attendant accessories.

The output of the crystal oscillator is taken from the cathode and fed to the first 807 through a 56-μμf. mica coupling condenser. There is sufficient r.f. to drive the 807 to good output. If a VFO is used, it is fed to the grid of this 807 by means of the front panel coax fitting. When VFO operation is desired, the crystal oscillator is generally switched off, although it is possible to use both simultaneously—which might be useful, say, for frequency marker purposes or for setting the VFO to a desired crystal frequency.

The first 807 can be worked as a straight amplifier or as a frequency multiplier. Cathode bias is used for protective purposes, and it is possible to remove all excitation to this transmitter with no damage to any of the tubes. The output circuit of this stage is interesting in that a novel system of bandswitching is used.

A Novel Band-Switching System

Briefly, the idea is to use two tuned plate tanks in series. The tuning condenser for each tank is made large enough to cover two adjacent bands. One of the outer plates of the condenser rotor is bent inward slightly at the corner so that at full or minimum capacity the condenser will short. In this way, it is possible to use one of the tanks at a time or both together. This arrangement works very well. The larger tank circuit covers the 3.5- and 7-mc bands, as well as all of the spectrum in between, and the smaller tank circuit tunes the 14- and 21-mc bands. Generally, only one of the tanks is used at a time. However, it will be found



C1—68 μμf, silver mica (see text)
C2, C4, C6, C7, C8—.01 μf, mica
C3—.01 μf, 400 v., paper or mica
C5—56 μμf, silver mica
C9—.01 μf, 1200 v., mica
C10—3/30 μμf, mica trimmer, isolantite insulation
C11—50 μμf, midget variable (mounted on lucite block for insulation from chassis)
C12—300 μμf, receiving type variable (National STH300, mounted on a lucite block and ceramic "buttons" for insulation from chassis)
C13—.001 μf, mica
C14—.01 μf, mica, and 1. μf, 600 v., paper, in parallel
C15—.005 μf, mica, 1200 v. rating
C16—.5 μf, 600 v., paper
C17—.01 μf, mica, 1200 v. rating
C18—150 μμf, variable spaced for 1500 v. (mounted on ceramic "buttons" for insulation from chassis)
R1—51K ohms, 1 w., carbon
R2, R3—22K ohms, 1 w., carbon
R4, R8—220 ohms, 1 w., carbon
R5—500 ohms, 10 w., wirewound
R6, R12—56 ohms, 1 w., carbon
R7—6800 ohms, 5 w., wirewound
R9—250 ohms, 10 w., wirewound
R10—68 ohms, 1 w., carbon
R11—50K ohms, 20 w., wirewound
J1—VFO input, coax fitting
J2—keying jack, closed circuit tube. (See text for changing from blocked-grid keying to cathode keying.)
J3—r.f. output, coax fitting
P1 and P2—"brown bead" pilot bulb pressed into rubber grommet and mounted on front panel.
RFC1, 2, 4—2.5 mh
RFC3, 5—1.0 mh
S1—s.p.d.t. slide switch for optional osc. or amp. keying (see text)
S2—s.p.s.t. toggle switch (see text)
S3, S4—"Gimmick" switches on tuning condensers made by bending one outer rotor plate (see text)
S5—final amplifier bandswitch, heavy duty shorting type. Ceramic insulation.
So1—meter switching socket with 3 additional locating grooves filed in it (see text)
So2—5-prong male socket for power supply cable (made from 5-prong tube base)
So3—octal power switching socket (see text)
Su1, Su2—Ohmite P-300 parasitic suppressors
V1—6C4 crystal oscillator
V2—807 intermediate amplifier, frequency multiplier
V3—807 final amplifier, frequency multiplier
XTAL

Bring all grounds for the crystal oscillator and first 807 stage to a common point, preferably the cathode of the 807.

Bring all grounds for the final amplifier to a common point at the cathode of the final 807.

that if the final 807 is being used as a doubler, its output may be increased appreciably by tuning one of these tanks to the doubled frequency while leaving the other tuned to the original frequency. For shortest leads, the high frequency tank is connected to the plate of the 807, and the low frequency tank is connected to the "cold" end of the high frequency tank. The screen voltage for this stage is 255 volts, which is a regulated voltage. Ohmite P300 parasitic suppressors are used in the grid circuits of both 807s to prevent any possibility of v.h.f. oscillations. No trouble of

(Continued on page 47)

The 6-meter Observing Project

O. P. FERRELL, Project Supervisor
EVELYN UHL, Tabulator

MARY T. BERGEN, Administrative Aide
ANN NEWBURY, Tabulator

(This work is supported in part by the non-profit cost-reinbursement Contract No. AF19(122)–72 and modifications with the U. S. Air Force, through the sponsorship of the Geophysical Research Directorate, Air Materiel Command.) The work of this project is conducted at the following address. Therefore, all mail should be addressed to RASO, c/o Radio Magazines, Inc., 121 S. Broad St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Status of the 6-meter Project

Total Number of Work Group Members:
North America—356
Oceania — 1
South America— 12
Africa — 2

Total Number of Screened Observations—7980 (1/10/48–5/31/49)
Number of Reports Received (to date)—1570
Observers Inactivated (1/20/50—2/20/50)—1
New Observers: W2CXE, W4LRR, W6FYM, W6ZVD, W8MVG, W9FJI, WØIWE, HK1HQ, ZS1DM, ZS1P, Burr, Pickering, Sender, Stanley

Raso Newsletter

In answer to many inquiries, the RASO monthly Newsletter is only distributed to coöperating observers of the 6-meter Project because of the limited number that are reproduced, and it is impossible to fill requests for copies from those outside the Project. A few special exceptions have been made, but these are being held to a very low number.

The RASO monthly Newsletter is reproduced on light-weight paper and dispatched via air mail to all coöperating observers outside the North American Continent. The Newsletter generally consists of six pages and includes a résumé of the 6-meter DX heard or worked during the preceding month. Recent Newsletters have also described numerous systems for automatically sweeping the 6-meter band. A portion of the recent Newsletter was also devoted to the "RASO Propagation Note Book" which described the phenomena of *back-scatter* and its use in predicting 6-meter F-2 layer openings.

SPECIAL NOTICE

50- and 144-mc Operators

A unique situation wherein amateur radio may play an important part is likely to develop in certain portions of Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. We are interested particularly in obtaining the names of amateurs who have operated either 2 or 6 meters and who are located in fairly open and fairly quiet radio receiving locations. If you are in one of the areas mentioned below and would like to participate in an unusual radio experiment, please send a postcard to the RASO Office. A questionnaire will then be sent to you giving you further information on the requirements.

Operators are desired from the following areas:

Colorado—within the following counties; Logan, Sedgwick, Phillips, Yuma, Kit Carson, Cheyenne, Kiowa, Bent, Prowers, Baca.

Kansas—West of the line formed by these counties; Washington, Clay, Dickinson, Marion, Butler, Crowley.

Nebraska—West of the line formed by these counties; Jefferson, Fillmore, Hamilton, Merrick, Nance, Greeley, Garfield, Rock, Brown, Cherry.

Oklahoma—West of the line formed by these counties: Kay, Noble, Logan, Canadian, Caddo, Kiowa, Jackson.

Texas—North or West of the line formed by these counties; Handeman, Cottle, Motley, Floyd, Hale, Lamb, Bailey.

WWV on 50-mc?

It has been suggested by several RASO observers that steps be instituted to request the CRPL, National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C., to delete their present 35-mc WWV service and substitute a similar service on 50-mc. It was pointed out that there are apparently very few users of the 35-mc service and that the institution of a 50-mc service would not only be beneficial to the amateurs, but also to the commercial services utilizing the band 42–50 mc.

The present radio carrier frequencies allocated by the International Telecommunication Conference at Atlantic City in 1947 for the broadcast of standard radio frequencies do not include an assignment at 50-mc. Channels at 2.5, 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 mc are 10 kilocycles in width and are assigned on a full-time cleared-channel basis. It is, therefore, necessary to report that unless the amateurs themselves are willing to allocate temporarily the lower 5 kilocycles on their 6-meter band, no action can be taken on this proposal.

One of the principal reasons for requesting the 50-mc service is to provide a 24-hour beacon. As RASO observers are already aware, there are or have been within the past several months three amateurs independently operating 6-meter beacon transmitters. It is felt by many of the observers west of the Mississippi River and in South America that the 50-mc WWV service would make an excellent beacon to warn them of possible band openings.

SWLs Attention!

Do not forget the important part that the SWLs are playing in the RASO program. It is not necessary to be a licensed amateur to take part in this vitally-important program. If you have receiving equipment operative on the 6-meter band, drop us a note at RASO headquarters and learn how you can be of help. The mysteries of 6-meter propagation are many, and the help of every available receiver is needed.

Stabilized Low-Power Tetrode To Be Available for Use in Ham Rigs

ALBERT E. HAYES, JR., W2BYF*

At last a stabilized tetrode you can plug into your 807 socket and forget. Sylvania's announcement of the 807W looks like the answer to the prayers of a large segment of the amateur body. This super-807 will be generally available for ham use in late summer or early fall.

THE 807 HAS PROVED TO BE the most misunderstood tube in the manual. There are probably more 807s in amateur transmitters today than all other tube types combined, and yet, if you ask the average ham what he thinks of the bottle, you're almost sure to hear a report of nearly-untamable parasitics, tendency for self-oscillation at or near the operating frequency, and inexplicable tendencies toward TVI production. And yet the gang loves the old 807 because it is indeed in a class by itself when you figure out what it can do.

Most of the shortcomings of the conventional 807 can be traced, in large measure, to the length of the screen lead from the screen itself to the socket connection—this due to "tradition" as much as anything else. When the 807 was introduced in the mid-30s, virtually all standard tubes were built along the same lines, with a "press" in the mount and a long meandering lead from each element to its base connection. The short mount, with the button base and its attendant short leads, as later exemplified by the 813 and the 2E26, to name two, was not in general use when the designers worked up the 807. It was a good tube for its day, and it filled a definite need in both amateur and commercial gear. If it was kept reasonably well loaded, if its shielding was "adequate," it behaved pretty well.

With the postwar advent of TVI as an important factor in the design of amateur gear, the attainment of nearly absolute stability, loaded or unloaded, became important, and those of us who examined the 807 with a critcial eye realized that something better was sorely needed by the industry. "If only the screen lead were an inch or so shorter" was the cry. Some 807s marketed under the Westinghouse label, bearing the brand "made in Canada," showed up on the postwar surplus market, and these tubes were found to be a *little,* ever so slightly, easier to handle than the conventional tubes turned out by RCA, GE, Sylvania, et al. In looking for the cause of this difference, it was determined that the "Canadian 807s" had a screen lead which was about one-eighth of an inch shorter than that of the more usual tube. Just this slight difference in length, together with its decrease in inductance at high frequencies, was enough to make a noticeable difference. How we longed for a really "short" 807, built perhaps along the lines of the 813 or the 2E26!

The Sylvania 807W

Now Sylvania has come along with a new bottle, the 807W, which seems to be the answer to the prayers of the ham who has sweated with parasitic suppressors, damping resistors, and traps to kill the instability in his 50-watter. The accompanying illustrations will give the reader an idea of the size of the tube compared with the 807. The ratings, as far as operating voltages and currents are concerned, are identical to those of the 807. The big difference, as far as we're concerned, is the shortness of the leads to the cathode, screen, and control grid.

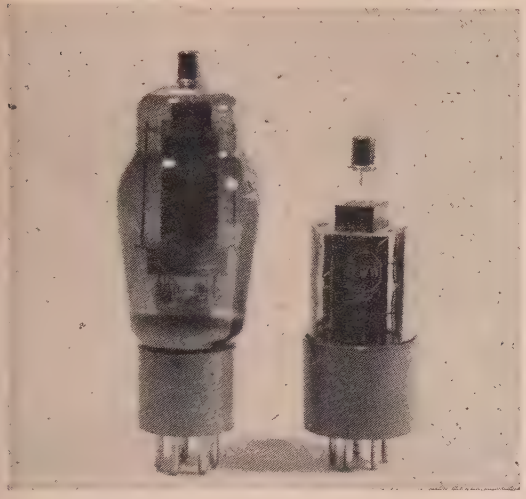
Performance-wise, the 807W has proved to be far easier to stabilize than the 807. We took a little 75-watt rig we happened to have around the place for a standby job (an Eldico TR-75), and removed the parasitic-suppression chokes in the grid and plate leads of the 807 stage. Wow! We had troubles, okay. Not only did we get the v.h.f. parasitic we expected, but the tube also "took off" at the operating frequency. Here was a good example of an unruly 807 stage.

We then plugged our 807W into the 807 socket, gave it a few seconds to come up to temperature, and pressed the key. Believe it or not, that 807W was stone cold! Absolutely stable, with any variations of tuning elements in the grid or plate circuits having no effect whatever on the stability of the tube. You can see why we fell in love with Sylvania's new baby.

* *Editor, CQ*

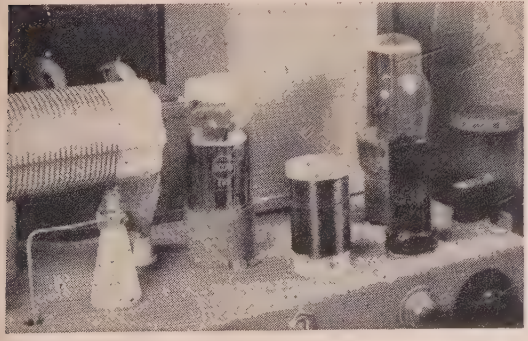
General Performance

Forgetting, for a moment, the excellent shielding and stability of the 807W, we then investigated its performance in comparison with the 807. As far as we can tell, the two tubes are twins on all bands up to 14.4 mc. On the 28-mc band the 807W seems to require a little less grid drive to attain normal output than did the 807. This will be a boon to the mobile gang who want to operate 28 mc with two stages, starting from a 7-mc crystal. We haven't had a chance to check it on six, but it's likely that it will be even better there.



The comparative sizes of the 807W and the 807 can be seen in this illustration. The shorter leads between the elements themselves and the socket pins are the major reason for its improved characteristics.

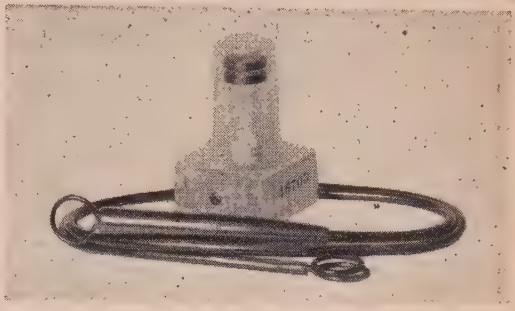
How does it stand up? We've been using our 807W for two weeks now, at 750 volts and 100 ma, and it hasn't given us a bit of trouble, in spite of the fact that we've let it get pretty far off resonance many times while tuning up on new frequencies. Yes, we think the 807W is definitely the tube of the future in low-powered ham gear.



Just plug the 807W into the old rig. The socket connections are exactly the same as the good old 807.

NEW PRODUCTS

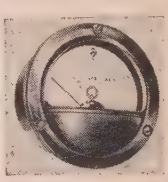
Jim Millen, W1HRX, announces the availability of a new series of three low-frequency coils for the Millen Grid Dip Meters. The three coils cover the range from 325 to 2000 kc, and bear the designations 46702 (925–2000 kc), 46703



(500–1050 kc), and 46704 (325–600 kc). He has also come up with a probe for coupling the dip meter coil to a circuit when clearances won't permit more orthodox coupling. The 46703 coil and the probe are illustrated in the accompanying photograph. Write to James Millen Mfg. Co., Malden, Mass., for complete information.

Meters Built to "Take it"

The Marion Electrical Instrument Co., of Manchester, N. H., announces a new family of panel instruments—the "ruggedized" line. This development, sponsored by the Signal Corps Labs, has been in progress for some 2½ years and has resulted in panel meters of extraordinary performance capability. These new units should find wide use in ham mobile gear where conventional instruments frequently get beaten to death.



Detailed information about these new meters may be obtained by writing directly to the manufacturer.

New Mobile Antenna

Master Mobile Mounts, Los Angeles, announces the addition of a new all-band mobile antenna to their already extensive line. The new unit, the M-75, is a specially-designed center-loaded job, with plug-in loading coils available for use on all bands from 3.5 to 30 mc. As originally supplied, the M-75 is tuned for operation on about 3600 kc—sounds like they have some mobile c.w. men working for them. Drop MMM a line if you'd like further dope.

Extending the Range of the Grid-Dipper

WILFRED M. SCHERER, W2AEF*

The Grid-Dipper is a mighty handy device for low-frequency uses such as BC receiver servicing, i.f. work on your communications receiver, and 160-meter transmitter tank circuits. If you've built one that works on the higher frequencies, here's how to extend its range down to 650 kc.

IT HAS OFTEN BEEN NECESSARY to employ a grid-dipper on frequencies below the 2-mc limit of the original instrument described by the author in *CQ*.[1] Inquiries regarding lower frequency operation have also been received from many readers.

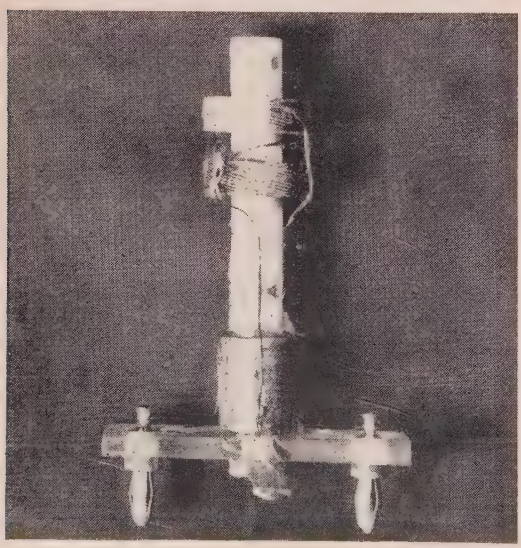
Operation below 2 mc does not simply mean the employment of a larger inductor. The *L/C* circuit easily can be made to resonate, but the tube will not oscillate. This is due to insufficient feedback at the low frequencies through the relatively small capacitive coupling afforded by the 100-$\mu\mu$f split-stator variable capacitor.

Oscillation may be realized by shunting higher fixed capacitance across each section of the variable capacitor, but this will radically reduce the range or tuning ratio with any one inductor.

Ample feedback may be had by employing inductive coupling between grid and plate. This may be accomplished simply by center-tapping the inductor and then grounding this point. Instead of having a capacitive feedback type split-Colpitts oscillator, we will now have an inductive feedback circuit, which, in effect, is the familar Hartley oscillator. A disadvantage, though, is one of inconvenience, as a third terminal must be provided for the grounded center-tap.

* *100 E. Palisade Ave., Englewood, N. J.*

[1] "The Improved Dipper," Scherer, *CQ*, February 1949.



Inductors may be easily made from commercially manufactured pie-wound 1-mh and 2.5-mh r.f. chokes of the standoff type. These are nicely adaptable since they may be conveniently mounted on the plug-in coil strip.

All pies, except the two at the far end, should be removed. When removing the unwanted pie sections, be certain not to break the leads from the remaining ones. A two- or three-inch length of small size wire should be soldered to the wire

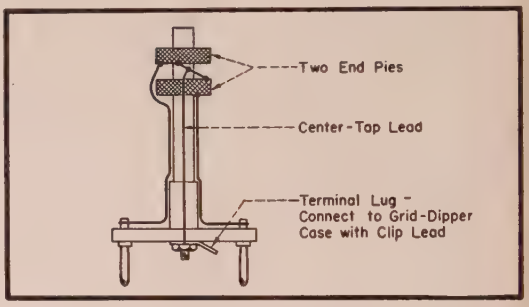


Fig. 1. The construction of the low-frequency coils. For the 650-1350 kc range use a Millen 34102 r.f. choke with the two bottom pies removed. For 950-1950 kc, use a Millen 34107 r.f. choke, remove the bottom pie section, and remove 20 turns from each of the remaining sections.

connecting the two remaining sections together. Longer leads will have to be soldered also to each of the outside connections for each pie.

The choke should be mounted as shown in *Fig. 1*. The center-tap should be connected to a terminal lug, which is held in place by the mounting screw. The connecting leads from the windings may be secured to the form with Duco cement to prevent their accidentally breaking off.

A short length of flexible wire should then be connected to the case of the grid-dipper with one of the screws holding the polystyrene end-piece. Be sure the paint has been removed from under the screw to permit a good contact between the case and the wire. The free end of the flexible wire should be connected to a clip, which may be clasped to the center-tap lug on the inductor in order to ground this point. Data is given in *Fig. 1* for the two frequency ranges down to 650 kcs. For still lower frequencies, the same principles should be followed, using choices of proportionately higher inductance.

Calibration may be made, as described in the original article, using a receiver covering the desired range. A calibration chart should be plotted according to the settings indicated on the 0–10 linear scale of the grid-dipper.

The pie-wound type of inductors require quite close coupling to the circuit under test, as compared to the flat single layer type of inductor. The latter type, for use at low frequencies, would have to be physically large and rather cumbersome. This is one of the reasons why the former is used. It is therefore necessary to couple closely during measurements when using the inductors described herein.

When the *Q* of the circuit under test is low, the dip on the meter will not be very pronounced; in fact, it may be difficult to locate. In this case, set the grid-dipper at an arbitrary frequency (or at the desired resonant frequency) and tune the test circuit itself until a dip is observed. Under low-*Q* conditions the dip will be rather broad. Several arbitrary settings of the instrument may have to be used before the resonant dip is located.

Probably the majority of situations involving low frequency readings will not readily permit close coupling due to physical conditions. When this is encountered, it is recommended that a low-impedance link be employed between the grid-dipper inductor and the inductive component of the unknown circuit. This was shown in an earlier article,[2] and is again indicated in *Fig. 2*. This type of coupling, of course, may be used on the higher frequency ranges also, and is of special aid when working within the small confines of TV receivers, etc.

[2] "Applications of the Grid Dip Oscillator," Scherer, *CQ*, January 1949.

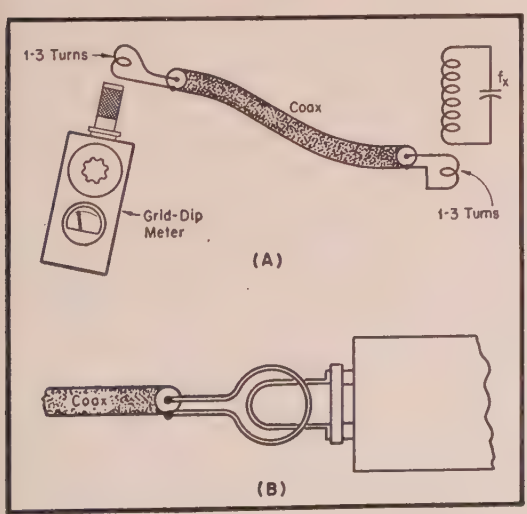


Fig. 2. Using link-coupling with the Grid-Dipper to reach out-of-the-way circuits. (A) Normal link coupling, and (B) method of coupling the one-turn loop to the high-frequency hairpin inductor.

Postscripts

Bremerton Hamfest

The Amateur Radio Association of Bremerton, Inc., will hold its annual hamfest on April 15th at the Elks Club, 5th and Pacific Streets, Bremerton, Wash. The program includes refreshments, entertainment, prizes, and a fried chicken dinner. Tickets are $3.50, and may be obtained by writing to R. V. Mallette, W7MIK, 1245 8th Street, Bremerton, Washington.

Modernistic C.W. Technique

Listen to the chatter,
  Clatter, splatter, of the bug!
How it gratifies the ego
  Of the man who makes it chug.
Hear him clatter, splatter, ring,
  With a synchopated swing . . .
Listen to his fist cut a rug.

This one-dah space for letters
  And that two-dah one for words
Is good enough for those poor
  Unimaginative birds.
Messrs. Wheatstone, Morse, et cetera
  Can go and fly a kite—
This guy's poetic license
  Tells him how to space them right.

Hear the tintinabulation
  As he doodles on his way,
With a calculated rythym
  And a subtle swing-and-sway
With a spacing that is different
  And a timing that is gay;
Yes, sir—too bad that none but he
  Knows what he has to say . . . .

Steve, W2ZDE

Book Review

It isn't often that a non-radio publisher comes up with a book that we truly feel has a place in most ham shacks, but the dictionary people have done it this time. *Webster's Geographical Dictionary*, which has entries for more than 40,000 geographical names, and which includes 177 maps of localities of special interest, should be on every DXman's operating table. With this tome on hand (it has 1,352 pages), you'll find that you have a lot more to talk about when you raise a guy who says he lives 22 miles south of K2 (yep), or that he is on Kangaroo Island. Many local names which your DX contact may throw at you don't appear on any of the countries-lists, and this valuable book is what you need to translate his QTH into something someone else has heard of. *Webster's Geographical Dictionary* is published by G. & C. Merriam Co., Springfield 2, Mass., and you should be able to pick it up at any good book store.—*A. E. H.*

Don't Tell My Wife

WILLIAM A. WILDENHEIN, W8YFB*

IT WAS JUST ABOUT THREE MONTHS AGO that the Doc told me, "From all indications, I would say you were the victim of a persecution complex." That sounded to me like one of those neurotic class B movies. He asked me to tell him what had happened in the past few years, and I did.

After my Army discharge in early '46, I turned full attention to getting some r.f. into an antenna here. The various mail order companies didn't have too much in the line of hamgear, but a new word had entered the selling vocabulary since I had swapped my soldering iron for a Springfield. Surplus! Everybody seemed to be loaded with the stuff, and some of the prices didn't look bad. Fact is, after they found out a command set wouldn't bring thirty bucks, things started to plummet down into my class. Meanwhile, I hooked up with a local BC outfit and found plenty of time to read all the magazines while on the job. After a while it began to take on the aspect of a game. One month Schmoes' Surplus would advertise 211s for 38¢ and, instead of dashing up with my buck, I'd play foxy and wait. Sure enough! Pretty soon an ad would advertise them for 28¢. Being single and well paid, I soon found myself among the ranks of the surplus speculators. Even then, the symptoms were beginning to be apparent to everyone I was in contact with. Like the day the Ladies' Aid met at our place. I got home to find the new *CQ* and immediately turned to the last page, to read from there forward. Which, incidentally, is the unmistakeable stamp of the surplus hound. As I headed for the closet to get my coat I overheard one of the ladies remark, "Rather queer of your son to read his magazine backwards." I would have stopped to return a caustic reply except for the fact that I had just seen an ad by a Cleveland concern offering a fourteen-tube radar set for only $9.95—limited quantities! So, as the Post Office motto says, "Neither rain nor snow nor fire nor pestilence shall stay these swift couriers in their way" . . . to Surplus Salvage Sales and Service, Inc.

But the stuff grows on you. It possesses you, body and soul. My original plans called for a 75-watt all-band fone-c.w. rig. That was until I saw an ad for a 3600 v.c.t. 350-mil transformer for ten pieces of Federal Lettuce. Things were going smoothly then until 304TLs went down to 59¢ apiece. Then it was separate rigs for each band. Oh, well, you know how it is. Every day at work I poured my heart into the job of designing new gear around the newest surplus releases until the Sunday I was called for a church remote. Not a bad deal, but it was a four-mike setup, and you had to follow the preacher around closely with the faders. All went well until I recalled a deal featuring a bunch of 1200 volt 750-mil transformers and immediately went into a trance over those wonderful items. A kw swam through my mind until I became aware of a notable lack of signal in the cans. I always maintained afterward that the preacher had somehow been spirited into the pulpit, because I never saw him cross over. Anyway, I only missed a few sentences before I ran up the gain on the pulpit mike.

The manager was, of course, properly indignant. I thought he was a bit too indignant. After all, when the filament bypass on the AM final blew, I happened to be tearing up a 375 tuning unit and had installed one of those condensers gratis.

But those troubles weren't too bad. What really got me was the local radio gang. Most of 'em are married, and you know how that goes. The OM comes home to his latest magazine and lapses into a rosy reverie in which he sees his shack resplendently adorned with ordered rows of 24Gs, 211s, BC-645s, and other juicy items "all for $3.95."

"Did you remember to pick up the head lettuce?"

"Ummmm—6C4s, 14¢. 1625s, 18¢."

"I said, DID YOU PICK UP THE HEAD LETTUCE?!"

"What was that, dear?"

"Never mind, I'll open a can of peas. By the way, your cousin is in the hospital."

"HMM . . . let's see. APS 13—$7.95 with tubes. Oh, that's nice, dear."

(Continued on page 57)

* *219 Foster Ave., Elyria, Ohio.*

The M. A. R. S. Page

THE FIRST ARMED FORCES DAY will be observed May 20, 1950. The old individual service days (Army Day, Navy Day, and Air Force Day) are to be no more. In their stead the Department of Defense is putting on one super-duper unification show which combines the best of all that was good in each Service Day.

The MARS (representing the Army and the Air Force) and the Navy have cooked up a double-header attraction for radio amateurs—a receiving competition and a QSO-message relay contest.

The receiving competition will consist of transmission from Washington, D. C., and San Francisco, California, of a special greeting from the Secretary of Defense, the Honorable Louis A. Johnson, to all amateurs. Each listener who can copy the transmission (to be sent at 25 w.p.m.) and who sends the perfect copy to ARMED FORCES DAY CONTEST, Rm 5B519, The Pentagon, Washington, D. C., will receive a special Certificate of Merit.

The QSO and message relay contest will have for its main purpose the demonstration on a national scale of the effectiveness of point-to-point or person-to-person communication by amateur radio as a back-up for normal communications systems.

Short-haul circuits will be stressed in the contest. The contest is open to any radio amateur licensed by the FCC or by the Armed Forces of the United States. Single and multi-operator stations will be considered separately in scoring the contest. All amateur bands, either phone or c.w., can be used.

Contest log forms or further information concerning the May 20 contest, including times (your local area), etc., may be obtained by writing: Armed Forces Day Contest, Room 5B519, The Pentagon, Washington, D. C.

Emergency Activity

Friday the 13th was a memorable day for inhabitants of the Owensboro, Ky., and the Calhoun, Ky., areas in January. The Ohio and the Green Rivers had been rampaging for days, and everyone knew it was just a matter of time until some of the flood waters would spill over and inundate the countryside.

MARS members and other amateurs in the area were busy getting ready for the call to emergency duty. Second Army Headquarters Station, A3USA, located at Ft. George G. Meade, Md., and Fifth Army Headquarters Station, A9USA, located at Chicago, Ill., were monitoring 6997.5 kc and 4025 kc for indication of trouble in the Ohio River Valley.

Dave Tooley, W4LUB, emergency coördinator for the Owensboro area, received a request for assistance in the Green River area near Calhoun, Ky., on Friday evening, Jan. 13. The Red Cross reported a lot of administrative traffic and no circuits with which to move them.

John R. Somerville, Jr., A4PDW/W4PDW, 1st Lt. in the Kentucky National Guard, was on the scene for MARS. Here's PDW's story in his own words.

"Saturday morning (Jan. 14), W4JXB, W4NIX/A4NIX and W4OYI/A4OYI went to Calhoun, Ky., with portable radio equipment. They took with them two battery powered TCS-12 transmitter-receiver units running about 25 watts, which were furnished by the local Naval Reserve, and some SCE-536 handie-talkies, furnished by the National Guard. Upon arrival in Calhoun, they set up a station operating as W4JXB/4 in the McLean County Court house. Communications were established with K4NRR, operated by W4PFQ, at the Naval Reserve Armory in Owensboro. The handie-talkies were on 3885 kc, so that was the frequency used for all transmissions.

"Saturday afternoon W4LTQ and W4NZO went to Calhoun to assist there; W4LUB relieved W4PFQ at K4NRR, and I went to K4NRR to help.

"Much trouble was experienced trying to operate on 3885 kc due to the poor selectivity of receivers in use at K4NRR and interference from other amateur stations. Weather reports, river stages, Navy, Coast Guard, and Red Cross traffic made up the Saturday load.

"Early Sunday (Jan. 15) W4NIX/A4NIX and

(Continued on page 60)

ARMED FORCES DAY RECEIVING COMPETITION
20 MAY 1950

	TIME	
NSS Washington	0200 GCT (2100 EST) 0400 GCT (2300 EST)	122, 4390, 9425, 12630, 17000 kc
NPG San Francisco	0400 GCT (2300 PST) (2000 PST)	115.4390, 9255, 12540 kc
WAR Washington	0200 GCT (2100 EST) 0400 GCT (2300 EST)	3497.5, 6997.5, 14405, 20994, 27994 kc

ARMED FORCES DAY QSO PARTY MAY 20, 1950

TIME	START	END
PST	0900	2100
MST	1000	2200
CST	1100	2300
EST	1200	2400
GCT	1700	0500 (May 21)

Major General S. B. Akin, Chief Signal Officer, U.S. Army, is a frequent visitor at M.A.R.S. headquarters station K4USA/WAR.

Conducted by E. M. BROWN, W2PAU*

BY THE TIME this column appears in print, balmy spring weather will be prevailing over most of the country. But winter still has us in its cold grip at this date, and much of the news which we have been hearing consists of "weather" items—ice storms and high winds playing havoc with elaborate antenna arrays, poor propagation conditions on two meters, the start of the spring aurora season on six meters, etc.

Few reports of outstanding accomplishments on the v.h.f. bands have been received during the past month. Some of the gang are off the air rebuilding their rigs for the coming DX season. Higher power, fancier antennas, low-noise receivers—yes, we can expect a greater exploitation of our v.h.f. and u.h.f bands during the coming season than we have ever experienced before. In addition to the changes that have been made to improve the coverage of their stations, many of the gang have decided that something must be done to solve the TVI problem and have waded into this situation with a vengeance.

On the other side of the Atlantic, conditions have been better. On December 11, at 1935 GMT, G5QA, at Exeter, heard a weak signal which he identified as OH2OK, of Helsinki, Finland. G5QA wrote to OH2OK and received confirmation that he was on the air at the time reception was reported. We have also received a report from W8LYS, who schedules OH2OK on ten meters, stating that Otto's signals have also been received by ON4CC (1,000 miles) and CN8BK (2,000 miles). The G5QA hop is about 1,250 miles. There is no explanation offered for these instances of extreme two-meter DX. G2XC, editor of the v.h.f. column of Short Wave Magazine, is carefully exploring the possibilities of sporadic-E ionization, atmospheric refaction, or "double-hop" reflections, and he concludes that none of the generally-accepted theories of propagation will supply a satisfactory explanation of this situation. In addition to these reports of extreme DX, a two-way QSO between G2BMZ and PAØEO on January 1 comes close to equalling, if not exceeding, the "G DX" record of 380 miles, held by G5BY and PAØZQ. Permission has been granted to the British v.h.f. operators to increase power from the former ceiling of 25 watts to 150 watts, so we may well expect to hear reports of improved performance from the stations utilizing the new power facilities.

** Send all contributions to W2PAU, 88 Emerald Avenue, Westmont, N. J.*

Ionosphere Storm Produces DX

As predicted well in advance by the "Warning Service" of the Central Radio Propagation Laboratory, a severe ionosphere storm began around noon EST on February 20th. The aurora borealis accompanying this storm scattered 6-meter radio signals between the hours of 1700–1745 and 1900–2130 EST. As a sample of the coverage, the last minute report from VE3DDT indicates that the following were heard: W1MEP, W1FTX, W9NJT, W1MPO, W1HDQ, W1PWW, W2PAU, W1KTF, W8NBM and W9ZHL.

This storm apparently did not produce a long path north-south opening. However, a second ionospheric disturbance began suddenly during the early morning hours of February 23rd. Aurora was observed that evening between the hours of 1800 and 2230 EST. W4LVA, Arlington, Va., worked W1AEP and W1MPO. W8CMS heard VE3AET, W1LLL, W9HGE, W9ZHL and W9VZP. WØTKX worked W9VZP and WØCJS. W1MPO heard W1RO, W1FX, VE3ANY and W2MEU. VE3DDT heard W8CMS, W1LLL, W1MPO, W1AEP and W9ZHL.

Possibly because of the suddenness and severity of this last storm, the 6-meter band opened on paths into South America the morning of February 24th. Pickering, an SWL in the RASO Group, heard LU1BV and LU9EV between 1007 and 1010 EST. Pickering also heard HC2OT work WØIPI, WØOLY and WØJOL from 1012 until 1032 EST. W8CMS worked both of the reported LUs and heard LU8AQ. Further details on these openings have already appeared in the RASO Newsletter.

Emergency Operations on Two Meters

During the severe ice storm which struck the area around Memphis on January 4th, several towns were cut off from power and telephone service. W4HHK, of Collierville, Tennessee, was prepared. Equipped with a 522 transmitter, a 300-watt gasoline-powered generator, and a simple dipole antenna which was jury-rigged in place of the 16-element beam which was wrecked by the ice, consistent contact was maintained with W4DI in Memphis until telephone service was restored. Traffic from the local power company, railroad, and the general public was handled efficiently.

This episode serves to demonstrate the value of our v.h.f. bands, especially two meters, for emergency communications service. The use of v.h.f. equipment for mobile work has been widely accepted by the commercial and government services, but, in general, it appears that the hams have not been exploiting these channels to their fullest extent for emergency operations. Amateurs operating on the v.h.f. bands know that reliable communications can be maintained between stations over distances up to about 25 or 30 miles with low-powered rigs and simple antennas on each end of the link. QRM is seldom a problem. Man-made and natural noise are lower on the higher fre-

quencies. The chances of a band-opening permitting high-powered DX stations to horn in on the operations of the low-powered emergency stations (which they cannot hear) are nil.

This is a plea for greater exploitation of the v.h.f. bands by the many active emergency organizations, all over the country. W4HHK has shown how reliably the two-meter band served in the Memphis emergency. Why not face the fact that the propagation characteristics of the v.h.f. bands are better suited for emergency operations than the congested low-frequency assignments, and include one of these bands (probably the two meter band) in your planning?

More on Helix Antennas

A recent note in this column to the effect that a few enterprising hams have been experimenting with helical antennas apparently provoked considerable interest. W3ARL, of Bristol Pa., has received several inquiries concerning his results with the helix. His results have been good enough to stimulate several of the two-meter hams within his working radius to coöperate in his experiments to the extent of erecting full-scale helixes. Among those expressing intentions of installing cork-screw antennas are W3NXT, W2VX, and W2BV.

An article in a widely-read periodical on the subject of helical arrays bolstered their hopes quite considerably by listing the tremendous gains which might be expected from relatively simple combinations of helix antennas. The gain figures were attractive—in fact, too attractive! We wrote to the editor of the publication, asking for further details. It seems that we were not the only ones who wrote. The correct gain figures will appear in a subsequent issue! Guess we'll have to go back to the figures listed in *CQ* for April 1949. W8RNC and W8VRQ claim a gain of about 12 db for a helix a little over ten feet long, two feet in diameter, with a large ground-plane reflector. This is quite a healthy gain for such a simple configuration, and it may well be that the use of circular polarization will be one answer to the problem of deep fading in multi-path transmission.

Amateur Television

There have always been hams who are not content to confine their operations to simple code or voice transmissions. In their search for new fields to conquer, they have explored the by-ways of single-sideband transmitters, teletype and now they are turning their attention to television!

In the New York area Ray Clurman, W2LNP, has been demonstrating what may well become an acceptable system of ham TV. His objective has been to simplify and cheapen the system to the point where it can be utilized by the majority of the hams—not only the rich ones. In order to eliminate the complex and tricky synchronizing-signal generator, Ray "borrows" his synch signals from a TV receiver which is tuned to one of the local TV broadcast stations—any one will do. His blanking signals are derived from the receiver in like fashion. The kinescope tube of the receiver provides a bright raster with no picture information on it, synchronized with the "borrowed" synch pulses. The flying spot of light which forms this raster may be passed through a photographic transparency to a photo-cell or it may be projected optically onto the subject being scanned, and thence reflected onto the photo-cell. The amplified output of the photo-cell—the "video" signal—is mixed with the combined synch and blanking signals in a simple one-tube mixer circuit, and the result is a composite video signal which is standard in all respects. It will actuate the sweep and picture circuits of any conventional TV receiver.

The 420-mc band is the lowest frequency on which hams are permitted to use picture modulation. It is thus necessary to use a simple converter (shades of the F.C.C. hearings!) to adapt the normal TV receiver to this service. To avoid the complexity of a special sound-channel receiver, Ray proposes to modulate the 420 mc picture carrier with a 4.5 mc f.m. sub-carrier, which will ride right through on the normal sound-channel circuits of the standard receiver.

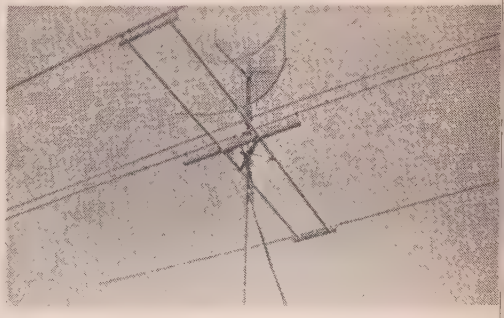
By using a receiver which is switchable from the broadcast channels to the u.h.f. converter, and with appropriate video and sweep-switching circuits it is possible to use a single receiver for both transmission and reception and reduce the investment required. On the other hand, by using surplus cathode-ray tubes, photocells, and only the bare minimum of receiver circuits, one can, starting from scratch, create a workable ham TV station for less than 100 bucks. At this time, there are only a few operators around New York working with W2LNP in his experiments, but the interest expressed at his demonstrations is high. Some of the well-informed hams in that area predict that we may see an upsurge in amateur TV operations in the near future.

VHF DX, as per Schedule

W4HHK, of Collierville, near Memphis, Tennessee, is one of the outstanding v.h.f. operators of the South. His best consistent DX contacts are W5JTI (19[illegible] miles) and W5NYH (137 miles). They work almost daily, on phone, and have yet to miss a try. Those guys get to griping because they can only work a couple of hundred miles on two meters, day in, day out! Paul can't explain the reason why they are getting such outstanding results; he blames it on the "magic of the magnolia blossoms"—or perhaps the prevailing high humidity which rolls up the valley from the Gulf of Mexico. His location is quite favorable (375' elevation), but the path to the other stations is not line-of-sight. W4HHK's equipment has a lot to do with his success. His receiver uses a 6AK5 6J6 cascode pre-amp into an HFS which feeds an NC183. A pair of 4-65s put out a big signal with 300 watts input, and the 16-element horizontally-polarized beam 66 feet above the ground helps some, too! Paul emphasizes the importance of keeping faithful and accurate schedules to demonstrate what can be done over a difficult path. Knowing exactly where and when to listen for the other guy is half the battle. Looking for new fields to conquer, W4HHK is planning an elaborate set-up for 220 and 420 mc.

Speaking of schedules, W3OWW, of Stewartstown Pa., sent us the dope on his regular rag-chews with W3AIR, of Glenmont, Md. Geary, W3OWW, uses a souped-up 522 receiver, a 522 transmitter with about 30 watts input and a six-element beam which was once flip-flop but has been stuck in the horizontal position for the past few months. This equipment accounted for 13 states in 6 call areas, plus VE3 during the past DX season. The 70-mile hop to W3AIR is over very rugged terrain, and the boys are proud of their accomplishment in maintaining consistent contacts. W3AIR uses several receivers, but the current one seems to be a 6AK5-6J4 cascode pre-amp into a BC639, with an HRO available for selectivity when needed. An eight-element beam is used for two meters horizontally polarized. Frank is also all set for 220 and

(*Continued on page 52*)



The 420-megacycle parabolic array of W7QLZ mounted above the ten meter beam. This combination replaces the system which was shown in February CQ. The original array was severely damaged by a wind storm.

Conducted by HERB BECKER, W6QD*

OUR SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS to the following six DXmen in achieving WAZ

185	VK6SA	S. C. Austin	40–103
186	G3ATU	Stanley A. Herbert	40–183
187	ZC1CL	Daniel E. C. Lockyer	40–138
188	W4AIT	Homer Apple	40–213
189	W6ID	Vaughn I. Parry	40–138
190	KH6QH	B. J. Hastin	40–177

It is good to see such a variation of talent as is listed above. Certainly no one section has a corner on WAZ in this issue. Naturally, anyone who achieves WAZ hardly needs an introduction to the DX gang, as you just can't get this award by staying off the air. Keep it up fellows.

Honor Roll

Last month, again, the Honor Roll was set up in type too large to accommodate those who were listed before we changed printers. We're sorry about this, but I believe you will notice that from here on out there will be a much better press job on the magazine. While mentioning the Honor Roll, I would like to say that any of you fellows who have sent in your list of zones and countries, and your totals were too low to get on the page, please don't give up. We want you to keep plugging, and when your totals look high enough to make the page, send us the additions, and if you have previously sent us a master list, we will add your additions to the list and place you in the Honor Roll.

Every now and then, someone wants to know if all the fellows in the Honor Roll, listed at 40 Zones, have submitted confirmations. The answer is, "Yes!" Occasionally, we will get a Zone list which shows 40 Zones worked, but unless we have all 40 confirmations along with this list, it will show up in the Honor Roll as 39 Zones.

More on Galapagos

In the March column, we told about the Guayaquil Radio Club planning an expedition to the Galapagos during the latter part of March. According to HC2JR, here's the way it stacks up at this time. John has obtained the coöperation of the Minister of Defense, who is giving them passes to travel on units of the Ecuadorian Navy. They are going to operate two transmitters on phone—one on 10 and the other on 20. They also hope to get in a little 20 meter c.w. work. Unless plans change, they will leave Guayaquil on April 3, and they expect to be on the air in Galapagos on April 7. . . . frequency will be around 28,450 and 14,150. There is an outside chance that the expedition might divide into two groups, in which case one group might get on the air a little earlier, probably the latter part of March. The April 7th date is certain, however—this is, unless something goes haywire with the Navy schedule. The call they will use is *HC8GRC*.

W5LFM is located in Japan, and his call is now *JA2FM*. He will be operating on 10, 20, and 40 c.w. . . . Another new one over there is *JA2VC* on 10 phone—he is ex-KH6VC.

GM3CSM is still looking for Zone 23, and judging from the other DX Ian has been working, I am sure he will knock off one of those boys when they start popping through. At the moment, his antenna setup is not too hot, as he is using a 67′ inverted "L" for 20, 40, and 80. On 10 he has a 3-element rotary, but he is waiting for a prop pitch motor before he raises the antenna to a respectable height. Ian is building a new broad-band band-switching transmitter for all bands and expects to have them going one of these days.

VE4RO thinks working DX on phone is a

(*Continued on page 66*)

Send all contributions to Herb Becker, 1406 South Grand Ave., Los Angeles 15, Calif.

WAZ HONOR ROLL

To enter the Honor Roll, fill out one of the Zone and Country List forms which we will supply on request. Please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

The Honor Roll contains totals of postwar contacts only, that is, contacts made since November 15, 1945.

It is not necessary to sumbit combinations until you are eligible for a WAZ certificate. To be awarded a WAZ certificate, send confirmations for the 40 zones, as well as a list of them, direct to the DX editor. If a Country List has not been previously submitted, then one must accompany the WAZ certificate application. For these lists, please use one of our standard Zone and Country List forms, and it will then become our permanent record.

The Honor Roll is in two divisions; the c.w.-phone section, which gives the current total of zones and countries any station has worked while using c.w. or phone, or both; the other section contains a list of "phone only" stations. All contacts claimed in this section must be on a "phone-to-phone" basis.

All-time WAZ certificates will be issued upon presentation of proper confirmation. The Certificate will be similar to the postwar certificate, although no listings of all-time WAZ certificate holders is anticipated at this time.

W. A. Z. HONOR ROLL

CW & PHONE

WAZ

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W3BES	224
W6ENV	224
W6GRL	223
W6MEK	222
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W6MJB	204
W6SYG	204
W4CYU	203
W6AM	203
ZL1HY	203
W6RM	202
W6SC	202
W6OMC	202
W6PKO	202
W7AMX	201
PY1DH	201
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W6IBD	176
W6GDJ	176
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W6SRF	171
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G5VU	124
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39 Zones

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W1ENE	205
W1BIH	204
W3NBK	203
W9RBI	203
W1JYH	202
W9IU	201
F3BS	201
W2HZY	200
W3EFV	197
W5ASG	196
W2GWE	195
VE3QD	195
W3OCU	192
W[illegible]JNN	191
W[illegible]DPA	191
W2AGO	191
W1AWX	191
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W9LM	170
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W4BRB	162
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G3FJ	139
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VE7KC	119
W6MUF	118
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G6BS	117
W6NRZ	117
KL7UM	117
W7HXG	115
G3QD	116
G3TK	114
W6JWL	114
W6VAT	110
W9NZZ	109
W6EYC	105
W7GXA	105
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W6WJX	101
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W8FJN	160
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W2PQJ	130
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W9MZP	126
FE8AB	126
GW3AX	123
W9TB	122
GW4CX	120
WØFET	118
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W7EYS	107
KL7PJ	107
G3ZI	107
W6CAE	98
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37 Zones

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W2ZA	160
W4IWQ	146
W[illegible]WU	146
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W8EYE	142
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VE5JV	113
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4X4BX	112
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W6ETJ	102
G2AO	100
W3BK	99
G6WX	95
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35 Zones

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W1BFT	130
W9CKP	124
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VE1PQ	120
W9RQM	119
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W8AVB	119
W9FNR	112
W9DGA	108
KZ5IP	108
FE8AB	107
W2HAZ	106
W9HUZ	102
WØGBJ	101
WØFWW	99
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W4IYT	127
W2OST	125
W1MRP	113
G6QX	110
W8JM	102
OE1FF	99
W9WEN	83
VE8AS	82
W8PCS	80

33 Zones

W4QN	110
G6QX	109
W2SEI	100
W8QUS	85
G2BVN	80

PHONE ONLY

39 Zones

W6DI	192
W6VFR	165
W7HTB	161
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W2BXA	173
W9NDA	157
W1HKK	153
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37 Zones

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W1JCX	170
W3LTU	169
W9RBI	166
W8REU	163
G2PL	154
W6WNH	153
G3DO	153
W6PXH	152
W8BF	146
W3JNN	136
W6TT	135
G6LX	124
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W1MCW	161
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PK4DA	150
W7MBX	144
W1ESP	141
W9HB	139
W9BZB	136
GM2UU	135
W6POB	130
W4INL	129
W1FJN	128
G6BW	127
W8AUP	126
W9HP	122
WØHX	118
VE3BNQ	115
G3YV	106
G6WX	105
W3DHM	96
W6SA	92
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35 Zones

W4HA	140
W6PCK	135
WØEYR	130
W6CHV	128
W2RGV	126
WØPRZ	124
G8QX	123
W8ZMC	122
W2GHV	121
CE3AB	121
W9CKP	117
G3FU	115
WØPUE	114
W5LWV	108
W4OM	106
W3PA	105

34 Zones

HC2JR	138
W9RNX	132
W5KC	125
W6UZX	120
W8BIQ	120
W4LZM	117
WØANF	115
W4LZM	114
W1BPH	105
W8UIQ	100
W4IWO	99
W8QBF	92

33 Zones

W5ASG	134
W9MIR	123
W9WCE	119
W5ALA	117
W2ZW	115
W2ZVS	115
VE3BQP	108
WØANE	106
W9BVX	103
W2PQJ	100

The Monitoring Post

gleaned by THE BRASSPOUNDER*

ANSWERING A CALL from the "Flying Enterprise," a trading ship sailing east for Norfolk, Va., whose master was asking for QSO with any ham phone station, **WØWEH** learned there was no doctor on board and a six-year-old child was seriously ill; symptoms were given to WEH, who phoned his local hospital in Minneapolis and contacted Dr. Cherry Cedarleaf; the latter diagnosed the ailment and, after determining that a supply of drugs was on board, prescribed doses of sulfa and penicillin with lots of fluids and rest; an hour later WEH called the "Flying Enterprise" to learn that the child was feeling much better, and the following day's sked brought word that the ham radio QSO had probably saved another life; the child's father, on board with his family coming to this country, took about five minutes thanking WEH—in German; neither Dr. Cedarleaf nor WEH could understand the language, but WEH's father was on hand and listened and then translated the speech of thankfulness. . . . **W6PH** and **W9NN** recently chatted and, comparing notes, found it was 25 years to the month since their last QSO; they've made a sked for the same month in 1974, 25 years hence. . . . **W2BSC** claims he still likes the sound of the rotary spark gap that he used back in 1920 when a 1-kw rig burned the air.

Settling down in Salem, Conn., after 32 years in the U. S. Navy, though his ham days go back 40 years, **W1LF** was on the air in 1910 with a 1-kw spark rig and in 1912 became 9LF in Chicago; in 1919 1QH was issued to him and later 1CJA and 1HBS, operating when he could spare the time from the Submarine Service. . . . **W9YWQ**, University of Chicago, has in its staff of active operators **W9SYP**, **W1MWK**, **W9UUM**, **W8BDQ**, **W9DMN**, and **W9ESN** as the radio club prexy; the station is set up on the football field where 150 watts goes either to a 600-foot or a 275-foot antenna, this location having no TV receivers nearby. . . . **W1BVB** says that since he's back on the air (1948), he has QSOd 62 hams who are in the theatre business, of which 29 work as he does—motion picture projectionist; he started in that game in 1912, working after school, when his salary was ten bucks a week; **W1WI** is one of the 29, and in the same projection booth with WI is **W1KKJ**, whose yl is **W1MDV**; **W6WYC** is special effects cameraman for M-G-M studios in Hollywood . . . BVB started in 1919 with a 1-kw spark rig with the call 1BVB, but since has had 1AAP for several years—the '48 call issued was his original BVB, and he says that's going to stay with him till his final QSO. . . . **W1AQE** hit the jackpot recently when he heard ZL stations on 80 for the first time and worked three of them within an hour.

There has been questionable comment on an item in this column in the January issue regarding the ability of **W7RT** to copy 40 wpm longhand, or, as was mentioned, hand-written copy; at the moment of this writing a certificate issued on Oct. 2, 1948, is on hand, having been sent by W7RT, which states: ". . . code transmission was set down correctly at 40 wpm . . . in competition with 25 participants . . . this transmission was copied in longhand" and is attested to by **W6DDE**, **W6CMN**, and **W6KEI** as witnesses—RT is looking for some competition in this style of copying and says with a little practice he can probably reach the 45 wpm mark in sustained copying, dotting the "i"s and crossing the "t"s so that anybody can read his writing. . . . **W2PRE** was heard on 80 coaching **W2YIR** in physics and **W2ZDE** with his thermodynamics just before the last exam period—let's hope PRE gave the boys the right answers.

W9VZM claims that southern Illinois comes alive on 40 and 80 after 2300 CST, when the TV stations shut down for the night. . . . **W7FS/MM**, having become well known because of his QSOs around the world, has settled down to plain W7FS with a 1-kw rig on 20 and 40, going after DX in a big way. . . . The Atlantic Radio Club's bulletin is a newsy sheet, but refrains from mentioning call letters, referring to the boys by name, but few of us know the members except by call. . . . **W6HSB** and **W6HTS**, Mr. & Mrs., are newcomers in ham radio and are the parents of **W6GDO**, who completes the all-ham family heard on 10 phone. . . . **K4WAR**, station of the Southeastern Signal School, operates separate transmitters on 160, 80, 40, 20, 10, 6, and 2 meters with separate and diverse styles of antennae . . . More than a half dozen traffic nets include K4WAR, and last year's hurricane that swept the South proved the efficiency of WAR's emergency work; among the dozen or so hams stationed at Camp Gordon belonging to the radio culb there are **W8EEC** and **W4PZS**, who do their share of operating traffic nets and rag-chewing. . . . **W7IGM** is back on the air after an illness and pushes through to the East Coast consistently on 10 phone; his xyl is **W7JWC**, who operates her own rig and is giving the om some competition. . . . Several of the Seattle, Wash., boys shipped a load of radio gear to New Caledonia, including a 500-watt Millen final, which means that soon the FK8 stations will produce better signals; there are seven FK8s now, with **FK8AA** coming through best at about 0230 EST on 7 mc.

The patience of **W4PL** was pushed to extremes recently while he was in the hospital. It seems a high old time was had by attendants trying to get PL to swallow that part of a stomach pump that should be swallowed, though he had not the least idea why he should need the contraption. He patiently cooperated for a solid two hours, without any appreciable success, when a nurse burst into the room looking for the attendants who should have been working with the pump on a Mr. Anderson in Room 717—not Mr. White (W4PL) in Room 702; the latter was happy to see the attendants and their torture gear moving out of Room

(Continued on page 65)

** Send all contributions to "The Brasspounder," c/o CQ Magazine, 342 Madison Ave., New York 17, N. Y.*

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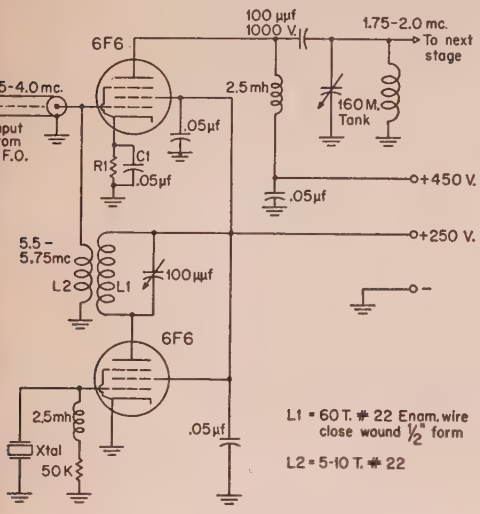
Frequency-Halving your VFO for 160 Operation

You fellows who would like to use your v.f.o. equipment on 160 meters may be interested in this frequency-halving circuit. Take your lowest-power buffer stage that follows the v.f.o. and change it over to a mixer. Working on the same principle as your receiver, set up another local oscillator whose beat frequency with the v.f.o. is in the 160 meter band.



The circuit shown uses a 6F6 or comparable power pentode. The extra oscillator is crystal-controlled in the frequency range 5.50 to 5.75 mc. Beating the v.f.o. output against this oscillator results in a signal sufficiently strong to drive an 807 as a buffer or final amplifier. It is particularly necessary to make sure that the output of the crystal oscillator and the v.f.o. are approximately equal. This may be checked by reading the voltage drop across the mixer cathode resistor without applying screen or plate voltage to this tube. Pull out the crystal oscillator tube, fire up the v.f.o. and check the voltage drop. Then shut off the v.f.o., reinsert the oscillator tube and measure the voltage again. The output of the crystal stage is controlled by varying the plate tuning condenser.

As in all "conversion exciters," this unit should be thoroughly shielded to prevent the generation of spurious responses near the operating frequency.

Crystals in this range are readily available in the surplus markets.

Phillip Jones, WØLVH

Substitute for the ARC-5 Plug

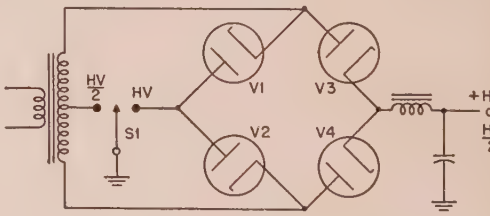
I have noticed that around Los Angeles it is pretty difficult to locate surplus plugs for the ARC-5. However, the PL-153 plugs are quite common, and, with a slight modification, they may be used.

Take a PL-153 plug and draw a line through the center of pins *1* and *7*, and then through pins *3* and *11*. At the intersection of these two lines drill a #33 hole. This plug will now fit on the ARC-5 modulator and control box in place of rare ARC-9585 plugs. Every function will be available except the #1 channel selector. This makes it suitable for use on all models except the T-23, which must be on the #1 channel. It is necessary to paint an aligning mark on the plug and receptacle, as there is no longer a self-indexing feature in the pin arrangement, although possibly by plugging the number one socket with a length of wooden match it can be restored.

John B. Riley

Half Voltage from a Bridge Rectifier

This circuit is an improvement (for some fellows) over the "Low Voltage Tap" idea in *CQ*, October, 1949, page 30. Most textbooks usually include the "half-voltage tap" circuit of a bridge rectifier with the center tapped transformer, but I have never seen one that drops the output voltage to one-half. Such a circuit is shown in the schematic. It essentially consists of a full-wave center tapped rectifier in one switch position of S_1 and a bridge circuit in the other position.



The switch S_1 should be well insulated since the voltage between the fixed contacts can be rather high.

The circuit is very handy for preliminary tuning of high power final because reducing the plate voltage will reduce the power input to one-fourth. The only precaution is to observe that S_1 is not a shorting-type switch. It can be seen from the circuit that if the plates of V_1 and V_2 are connected to the center tap of the transformer, each half of it will suffer a short circuit, through the tubes, on alternate cycles.

Georger J. Uminski, W9STN

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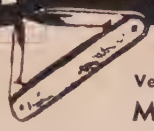
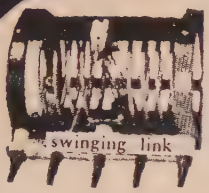


Mottled grey Pyremite handle, 2 blades; 1 clip, 1 pen, both full mirror fin. Length closed 3"



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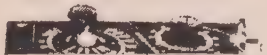

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Conducted by LOUISA B. SANDO, W7OOH*

WHEN WE became W7OOH deep in Oak Creek Canyon, we felt *we* were really isolated—but we wonder just what it would be like to be in a spot 60 miles north of the Arctic Circle? That is where Jeanne Collins, KL7RN, and her OM, KL7IS, have their antenna farm, and they surely have ample uncluttered space for it. When we asked Jeanne what life was like up in KL7-land, her reply was so interesting we want to share it with you.

Wrote Jeanne: "Your letter was received about two *mails* ago. Then followed a siege of bad weather making it impossible to get an Alaskan picture that looked like Alaska without being too Alaskan and obscured by blowing snow. April is really the earliest month that pictures can be taken. The sun is still far in the southern latitudes even then, but at least we see it. We rarely take black and white pictures any more. Alaska is magnificent, and only color does her justice. An artist would be booed to the limit should he use without restraint the colors of this land in summer. In winter, blues are all that's necessary. Hang a harvest moon over a Vermont winter landscape and you can almost grasp one of our more beautiful scenes. We don't see the moon in summer, maybe that's why we love it in the dark months.

"We are located at a Civil Aeronautics Administration Airways Communication Station. The building is a converted trading post. Quite modern even to running water—if we keep the pipes thawed. We are 4 miles from Shungnak Village and 7 miles from Kobuk Village, on the banks of the Kobuk River. Just the OM, KL7IS, and I are here. In all, five white adults (school teachers at Shungnak Village) and two white children inhabit the area. Total population hits 120 in a 100-mile radius. We have plenty of room for an antenna farm!

"We generate our own power with a gasoline generator—my one source of local QRN. With a Vee beam running right over the generator building toward Stateside, I get plenty of the QRM on 10 meters. Usually receive on a 2-clement wide-spaced beam to escape most of the racket. Both beams are made of #10 copper wire, the 2-element sporting a wooden frame which has disintegrated only once in our winter gales.

"At present I'm using 60 watts on 10, but W7GNJ (Bea's W7HHH, husband) is building me a 300-watt rig. Also we use the 60 watts on 20, 40 and 80 c.w., but at the moment waiting for nicer weather to extend the antenna farm. The OM is building a small 10-meter rig for the airplane, so someday we can see what altitude will do for signals. Also have a couple of 30-watt 40 and 80 portables for summer and emergency use.

"We both like c.w. and that was, of course, the easiest part of our ham exams since we had to qualify at 30 wpm sending and receiving for CAA. We both hope to get Class A if we can get to Kotzebue for the exams. We'll have to take turns flying down since we can't both leave the station at once. We have our own plane—use it constantly in summer when 24 hours of daylight make flying possible around the clock. Winter trips are less frequent due to short daylight hours and extreme cold. I don't fly as much as the OM. In winter he has to help me so much with preheating the engine et al that I think it unfair to run off and leave him behind. I used to be the farthest north based woman pilot in Alaska. Itinerants have come through though, and I don't know if I still hold the record. Shungnak, incidentally, is 60 miles north of the Arctic Circle, geographically 66°50′ N lat., 157°05′ W long.

"The Kobuk is navigable from the coast to 60

(Continued on page 56)

** Associate Editor, CQ. Send contributions to L. B. Sando, Verde Valley School, Sedona, Arizona.*

KL7RN models her new sun-suit

SENIOR-GRADE RIG

(*from page 24*)

this kind was encountered, so either the suppressors are working, or there are no v.h.f. parasitics in the first place. There is no parasitic-suppressing resistor in the screen circuit of this stage, although one is used in the screen of the final stage.

The output from this 807 drives the final 807 through a 3/30 μμf. mica trimmer. The amount of coupling need not be very great. In fact, the trimmer runs quite open. The capacity should be set at the value that gives rated grid current in the final 807 at full load. There is plenty of reserve driving power, as it is possible to increase the grid current beyond 15 ma by increasing the coupling capacity. Care should be taken not to overdrive the 807, as this will cause reduced output.

The Final Amplifier

The final amplifier stage uses the tapped-coil, shorted-turn method of bandswitching. The bandswitch is a heavy duty affair obtained on surplus. Any similar switch could be used, the chief consideration being that the contacts be heavy, the insulation ceramic, and operation positive. The plate tank coil is wound on a ceramic former. The pitch of the turns varies, being coarse, or double-spaced, at the "cold" end and fine, or single-spaced, at the "hot" end. This makes it easier to tap the coil. All coil data is given in the coil table and should work out to be satisfactory with a minmum of the usual cut-and-try. The plate tank condenser has a capacity of 150 μμf, and practically all of it is used on 3.5 mc. The final tank circuit is designed to have a Q of 12, which means about 2 μμf per meter. Thus, on 40 meters the condenser operates at about half-scale, on 20 meters at quarter-scale, and on 15 meters at slightly less than this. Many 807 rigs do not have enough tank Q, particularly at the lower frequencies, and it is not uncommon to have the point of maximum r.f. output quite far from the point of minimum plate current dip. In this transmitter, both occur at the same condenser setting. The r.f. output is link-coupled to a coax fitting at the rear of the unit. Insulation in the link is made extra heavy to avoid any danger of short-circuiting the plate voltage to the antenna circuits with the danger to life that this might entail. Also in the interest of safety, the final tuning condenser is connected to its dial by means of a flexible insulated coupling. The twin-post connection at the back of the transmitter is a spare for possible use with a folded dipole.

Screen voltage for the final 807 is obtained

through a 50,000-ohm resistor from the plate supply. This is done, in preference to a fixed source of screen voltage, so that the stage may be modulated. This dropping resistor is shunted by a .5-μf condenser to provide the necessary audio path to the screen. The large 1-μf paper condenser across the cathode resistor is also necessary when phone is used.

An interesting feature of the final amplifier circuit is the voltage-switching plug arrangement which enables the stage to be operated in any one of several ways. First, when using c.w. with a common power supply for the whole rig, an octal plug with pins *2* and *6* jumpered is plugged into the socket. For phone the leads from the modulation transformer secondary plug into pins *2* and *6*. Or, if it is desired to use the maximum voltage on the final from a separate power supply, this may be plugged into pins *2* and *5*. This socket also provides a means of power takeoff for an auxiliary unit, such as a VFO, and it can be used as a handy point to measure all of the operating voltages of the rig.

Another novel feature is the meter plug switching scheme. The various circuits of the transmitter are metered by inserting a milliammeter across low-ohmage resistors which are in series with these circuits. However, instead of using a switch or jacks, the four metered circuits are brought to the pins of a bakelite octal socket, which is mounted on the front panel of the transmitter. Three additional locating grooves are filed in the socket with a small round file, so that an octal plug can be inserted in the socket in four different positions. Pins *1* and *8* of the plug are connected to the terminals of an external milliammeter. To read the various currents, it is only necessary to rotate the plug to the desired position. This method of meter switching is absolutely safe since there are no exposed live circuits elements, and it enables a single meter to serve for many different pieces of apparatus, provided the same system is used on all of them.

In addition to metering, brown bead pilot bulbs are inserted in series with the plate leads to the 807s. These provide a handy tuning indication, and they also act as fuses to protect against short circuit. The bulbs are replaceable from the front of the transmitter, enough slack being left in the wires which are soldered to them so that the bulbs can be pulled out of their rubber grommet holders entirely.

Although the bottom portion of the transmitter may appear somewhat crowded in the photograph, such is not actually the case. All of the various components fit into their places quite easily. The job is made simpler if as much of the wiring is done in sub-assembly style as possible. The male voltage input plug at the rear of the transmitter is made from an old five-prong tube base.

The transmitter requires 6.3 v. at 1.95 A. for heater power, 250 v. d.c. at less than 20 ma for the oscillator and screen, and 400 volts at 30 to 40 ma for the first 807. The final plate current depends upon the amount of loading and runs to a maximum of 100 ma. 600 volts may be used on

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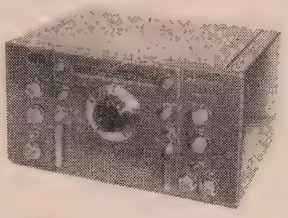

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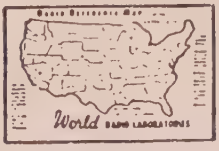

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The effort spent in constructing this rig has been very worthwhile. The stability is such that with full plate voltage applied and excitation removed, any or all of the tuning dials may be varied over any portion of the tuning range without the slightest flicker in plate current. About one half of the reports have been that desirable "599X" and many favorable comments have been received on the quality of the signals while working other stations—these bouquets being tossed without even a hint of a request for them.

HOT NEWS

FROM THE HAM KIT HEADQUARTERS

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No. 2 - EE-1

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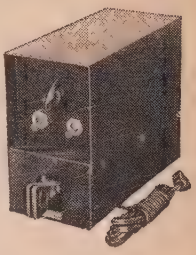

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40 WATTS

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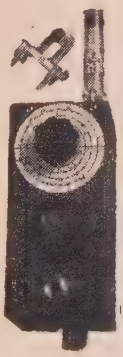

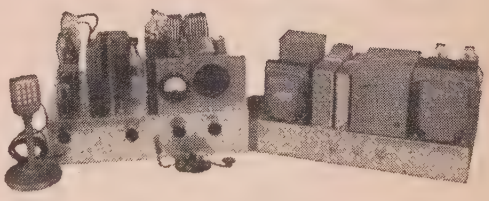

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Sixth Annual Old Timers' Night

The Delaware Valley Radio Association, of Trenton, N. J., will sponsor its 6th annual Old Timers' Night and banquet on Saturday evening, April 15th, 1950, in the Terrace Room of the Hotel Stacy-Trent, in downtown Trenton.

Guest speakers will include OTs in the wireless game and men who have been prominent in all branches of radio for many years.

Reservations must be made by April 8th. A letter to Ed Raser, W2ZI, General Chairman, 315 Beechwood Ave., Trenton, N. J., accompanied with $5.00 for each reservation, will fix you up. Late comers who purchase tickets at the door will be taxed $6.00. As in the past, the party will be stag.

V.H.F.—U.H.F.

(from page 33)

420 mc using crystal-controlled 6J6 final amplifiers for both bands. Contacts on the u.h.f. bands have been strictly local to date.

W2UTH, who is, by the way, president of the Rochester, N. Y., V.H.F. Group, maintains a weekly schedule with VE3ANT, and to date has had 100% success. The 95-mile path from Rochester to Northmount, Ont. is not an easy one to span on the v.h.f. bands. Horizontal polarization is now used exclusively in the Rochester and Ithica areas. The line of demarcation between horizontal and vertical seems to be creeping east!

W3PR, near Harrisburg, Pa., and Ye Ed have proved the importance of maintaining schedules. Hooked up for the first time by means of a land-line call, we established contact on 144 mc on the very first try! Since then 100% results have been obtained on five consecutive tries, every Tuesday at 2230 EST. W3PR uses a 522 with 10 watts input, and a 16-element horizontal beam. We hope to get Jim set up for vertical polarization also, as this path would be a good proving ground—100 miles over rugged terrain.

Schedules are a "Must" on 420

The operators who are trying to break the ice on the 420 mc band are strong in their insistence that pre-arranged schedules must be set up to demonstrate the capabilities of this band. As we have pointed out before, the antennas for this band must have high gain if good results are to be expected. Such gain is easiest obtained by designing the array for high directivity in both the vertical and horizontal planes. With activity as low as it is now in most sections, and with signals as weak as they often will be in the experimental phases of u.h.f. operations, one must have a good idea of when and where to listen for a signal, or many hours may be wasted to no avail. The problems of antenna directivity will probably bring about many changes in our regular operating techniques as the 420 mc band becomes more occupied.

So, fellows, that's how it's done. Try setting up a few schedules to check the capabilities of your equipment. Pick a partner who can be depended upon to stick to the schedule, located far enough away so that you are both convinced that consistent contact cannot be maintained. Under these conditions even minor improvements in the equipment will show up. Then go ahead and work him consistently . . . on schedule.

F.M. vs. A.M.

Interest in f.m. transmission and reception has apparently revived, according to comments received from several sources lately. W1EYM and W1JKC are run-

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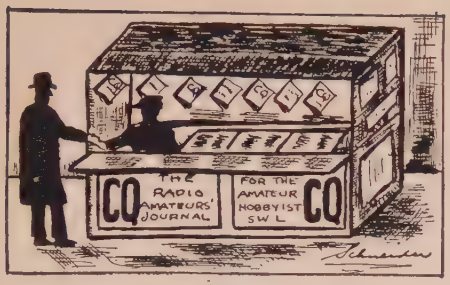

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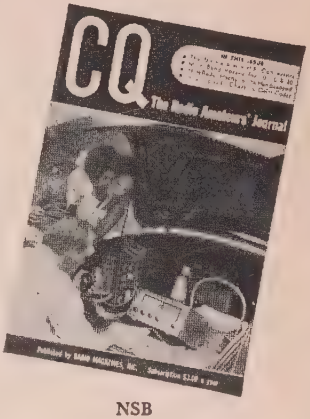

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ning tests on very-narrow-band f.m. They are using Q-5er techniques to cut the receiver band-width down to a few kc and are using all the usual tricks to improve articulation. Preliminary tests show results at least favorably comparable to a.m. for weak-signal reception.

W2VEN feels that the average ham receiving system falls far short of what v.h.f. mobile-service f.m. receivers will do. He points out that the degree of quieting of a typical commercial f.m. receiver with input signals less than a microvolt is greater than the average a.m. ham receiver will provide. We don't agree entirely with the figures which W2VEN quotes for the ham receivers—our tests have shown that the v.h.f. receivers have to be pretty durned good before the hams are satisfied with them—but maybe he does have a few strong points in his case for f.m. The lack of modulator power requirements in the transmitter is a pretty good selling point.

W9ECH, W9GCZ, and W9EKK are experimenting with a spot-frequency medium-wide-band f.m. system. Their results have been very encouraging. They are at present using receiver band-widths slightly greater than 100 kc, and the transmitter swing is held between 50 and 100 kc. They also employ the usual pre-emphasis techniques to gain the full benefit of the system. Look for these boys on 147.6 mc. They are using crystal-controlled transmitters and receivers.

Several of the boys are already using f.m., either consistently or on occasions, from their fixed stations. W2FTX of Millville, N. J. (144.1 mc, 500 watts) is all set with a surplus f.m. police rig, transmitter and receiver. Using swings in the order of ten kc, Russ is able to do fairly well even with the fellows using normal a.m. receivers. W2DFV, W2TM, W3FGN, and several others are ready with f.m. transmitters but the limited number of good f.m. receivers now in use has effectively discouraged extensive operations.

We would strongly suggest that those interested in f.m. on our v.h.f. bands get together and agree on reasonable standards for their system. There are many considerations, all important, which should affect the choice of standards. There are several n.f.m. adapters on the market for the low-frequency communications receivers so often used for i.f. strips. The system should be adaptable to these sets. There are several surplus police-band f.m. sets available now, and it would be nice if the system could be adapted to these rigs. May the best system win!

Is f.m. going to be worthwhile? Required reading on this subject would be "A.M. and Narrow-Band F.M. in U.H.F. Communications" by E. Toth, in *Electronics* for February and March, 1950. This author makes a pretty good case for a.m. but he has been confined to some circumstances which do not necessarily apply to ham communications—receiver instability, for example. This is a classic example of a situation where there would be no argument unless there was a lot to be said on both sides. To those who would say that the mobile services chose f.m., one might point out that most of the armed-services and airline equipment designed for weak-signal work is still a.m. And so on, far into the night! Ye Ed would very much like to use f.m. efficiently. It would cut out at least 75% of our TVI—that due to audio blanketing.

Six Meter Activity

Things have been pretty quiet on six meters during the past couple of months; only a few scattered reports have been received. For the first week of January, no DX was reported except a very brief sporadic-E opening on the 4th, during which W5FSC W7QLZ, W4CPZ and several W6s were active. On the 8th, HC2OT broke through and worked W5ONS with strong signals both ways. Apparently most of the rest of the gang were not at their listening posts at this time (1015 EST).

Our South American friends had things a little better, with band openings on January 14, 21 26, and 29. KH6PP heard ZL3LE on the 23rd for a very short period.

The North American gang took advantage of a slight aurora opening on January 24th, with VE3AET, W1PWW, W1EIO, VE3ANY, VE3DDT, and W9VPZ reporting aurora contacts.

Watching the 27-day cycle, the gang was ready for

another round of ionosphere activity on Feb. 20, when a strong aurora disturbance produced visible Northern Lights as far south as Philadelphia. W2MEU, W1PWW, W1EIO, VE3ANY, VE3DDT, and W9VPZ others were breaking through at our QTH at southern New Jersey, all signals being severely affected by the aurora roar. VE3ANY reported hearing plenty of activity from W1, W2, W3, W8, W9, and WØ. Although the band was thoroughly searched on the following morning for signs of an F-2 opening we have not yet heard any reports that indicate that an opening occurred.

The early hour of the aurora opening found many of the city dwellers off six meters due to TVI. The problem of 50 mc TV interference is a tough one, as many TV sets which are apparently immune from overload effects on the other ham bands will go into a complete dither when a strong 50 mc signal is pumped into the antenna circuit. Of course, traps help, but it is often a problem to get to the offending set to install a trap or filter. We'd like to hear from some of the gang who have successfully met this problem.

420 Megacycle Notes

K2AH tells us to pass the word around that the gang around Northern New Jersey are looking to the south on Friday evenings between the hours of 8 and 9 p.m., EST. Among those active in the N.N.J. section are W2AOD, W2BQK, W2BLF and W2NPJ. The first inter-city QSO on 420 is certain to give the band a big shot in the arm, so let's hope that the Philadelphia area boys will do their best to break through to the fellows about 80 miles to the north.

We have received a long epistle from W7QLZ describing his latest efforts on 420. Space does not permit a full discussion of Clyde's experiments, so we'll postpone it until next month when perhaps we can better do it justice!

Until next month, 73, and to those of you who have asked whether I can't get on ten or eleven meters to talk to you in person, be patient. The final amplifier for the l.f. rig should be finished any day now! . . . Brownie, W2PAU

Are you an NSB?

(*See page 53*)

THE YL'S FREQUENCY

(*from page 40*)

miles east of us, a distance of 300 miles on the surface. It is the farthest north river on the west of Alaska on which large river boats ply. Our supplies come in once a year by boat and plane in July and August. Our cellar and pantry look like a country store for two. Our own plane comes in handy in those horrible years when I forget some staple item. One year it was baking powder. We have yet to run out of food, although we have gotten low enough to be very bored with the fare. Our meat is entirely reindeer with the exception of a few cuts of lamb, beef, et al, which we ship in in the fall. Good reindeer is much like beef, and we think better. Some of our ham contacts around Christmas think us a bit brutal though!

"All this may sound a bit back-woodish. It's the first year that's the hard part. After that one doesn't expect the impossible, and many appurtenances of civilization leave us cold. Before we knew Shungnak we said we'd come for one year; figured the isolation would be terrific. That first year was a bit difficult and I reluctantly bowed to another year's service, *if* we had leave Stateside first—our first leave in three years or so. Since then we've not thought of being lonely or isolated. Radio fills the need for daily gossip as it were, and we've finally been 'accepted' by the Eskimos, and our CAA work and maintenance keep us hopping. A few trips into the surrounding hinterland and we feel this end well populated. We've learned to be more self-sufficient and rely less (or not at all, really) on a social whirl to keep us happy. Our families in Oklahoma disowned us once, but since Dick's mother visited us last year they've begun to speak again. We're definitely black sheep, though!

"We have a great number of visitors due to 'interesting' geological formations and a convenient air field. Naturally, the bulk of them are male. Strangely enough, I get almost frantic at times for a chat with another white woman. In the years I've been here, seven white women have dropped in from the wide blue yonder. Little wonder YL contacts on the air mean so much? Last winter I kept almost daily skeds with Jean, W6PVV, at San Bruno. So between the girls and the magazines, I know how out of style my wardrobe is—hi!

"Sculpturing was my hobby, and education for that matter, until ham radio wandered in under pressure of winter isolation. Now I've little time to work at it. Radio does mean a lot to us. Just wish I could devote more time to it, but after all we do have a few CAA duties to perform each day."

In a later letter Jeanne added: "Just finished a new Vee beam, terminating pole 65 feet high, field ends 45 to 50, three field poles, one set for Stateside, the other for DX (we hope): all 16 wavelengths long. With the transmitter W7HHH's OM built on this end, maybe we'll get out!"

By the way, if you're thinking it might be rather cold at KL7RN's QTH, let me add a comment Jeanne made one day to W7HHH: "It wasn't so cold the other day," said Jeanne, "only 47 below zero." (!)

OZ7YL

We seem to have been neglecting the DX YLs recently. Not that it's intentional, but there just never is space enough for all we'd like to publish. But, as a start toward remedying the situation, here is news of the first YL to be licensed in OZ-land. Dot Valbjørn is her name, and it all began back in 1925 when her brother, OZ7DV, was bitten by the shortwave bacillus. Dot became second operator of the station, and when OZ7DV became a soldier he presented his transmitter to Dot. She took her exam immediately and from that moment Dot's greatest interest was in the short waves, with all of Europe worked on 80, 40, and 20 meter c.w. (OZ7YL is an eager c.w. enthusiast.)

After April 9, 1940, all Danish hams had to turn their transmitters over to the police, and some years later OZ7YL's rig, together with all the equipment of all the amateurs from Odense, were destroyed by the RAF when it made an attack on the Gestapo headquarters in Odense. But after the war with a new QRP transmitter running 10 watts, OZ7YL has been working on 40 and 20 meters again.

Dot is another who enjoys a "busman's holiday," for she works as a telegraph assistant, where, as it were, she also daily works all the world.

Glad Tidings and Sad

Grievous news from San Diego. Early in January a son was born to Eleanor, W6AAW, but two days later he passed away. We're happy to report that Eleanor is doing nicely, though, and is at home with her OM and her two older jr. ops.

Many of you have heard about it over the air, and if not you no doubt noticed the change at the beginning of this column. Gosh, how does one announce it? Well, anyway, since January 28th yours truly has been answering to the name of Mrs. Sando. Since we love the West so much, what could be better than to wed one of her native sons and stay here permanently! Joe isn't a ham, but he takes to the mike with such ease that we doubt if it will be long before he goes after a call of his own—but in any case, he'll certainly feel at home around the shack.

Everything seems to happen down San Diego way! On the 3rd of February Jean, W6ZYD, was rushed to the hospital for an emergency operation for strangulated hernia. She came through the operation in fine shape and is now home recuperating—a good chance to work that rig, Jean!

DON'T TELL MY WIFE!

(from page 30)

"Ken Smalley! You never heard what I said! And after your cousin gives you twenty dollars for your birthday you spend it on that—that JUNK! You know Dicky needs new overshoes!"

"But honey, if I just get this transformer and a couple of these tubes—"

"Last week all you needed for your 300-watt rig was a condenser."

"But—Oh well, I'll get the head lettuce. Forgot

it on the way home from work, you know."

"I know."

And so I found a rather desparate Ken Smalley at my shack door. He had a head of lettuce and a very furtive look. Almost malicious.

"Can't stay a minute, Bill. Here's nine fifty. Nine for one of those transformers you got last week and fifty for postage. OK?"

"Yeah. Grab the one you want."

"No, you have to bring it."

"What??! I gotta deliver it yet?"

"Well, Ellen better not find out. I got it all figured out."

He outlined a plot and I was a bit hesitant to go along with him, but felt sorry for him. So later that evening I dropped over to his place.

"Hi, Ellen!"

"Hi, Bill! W8 Young Foolish Bachelor to see you, Ken."

Ken came in from the kitchen.

"What's up?"

"Gotta have some tubes. Built a rig and figured I had 'em on hand. The rig's all done and I can't try it out."

"Well, we'll see. Wanta swap?"

"Suits me."

"You mean there's something you DON'T have??" (Ellen knows me too.)

We headed upstairs to his shack. He really had the tubes. A motley assortment of 112As, OlAs, a burnt out 211E, and worst of all, an old Kellog tube.

"For once I'm glad Ellen didn't take up ham radio."

"Think she fell?"

"Fell? We should be in Hollywood!"

So on the way out I made sure the family saw me walking off with an armload of tubes. I kind of got worried when Marylin bounced over to grab the old Kellog bottle and said, "What's this funny tube, Bill?"

Ellen called "Don't, honey! You might make Bill drop his tubes."

I explained to Marylin that it was a special VHF tube. With that I left, to return later with Ken's transformer.

Naturally the word got around to the gang pretty fast. So when one of the guys got a couple bucks winnings from the factory check pool or made a fast fin repairing a radio, I would soon hear about it. Of course, the schemes grew more and more devious. Around Christmas I suddenly became a generous nitwit bringing "presents" of tubes and such small gear to the "henpecked" brethren. It wasn't long before I knew precisely which nights each wife attended what club meeting.

I didn't worry too much about taking bread out of anybody's mouth. The guys never averaged over maybe a buck or so a week. Once in a while there would be a flurry or two of good buys and they'd spring pretty handsomely, but it wasn't too much in the long run.

But it sure was a mess of monkey business. I was spending all my time, it seemed, on secret

rendezvous, returning the "Swap Props" to the rightful owners, running up to the postoffice or checkreading six or seven different magazines to locate a desired article. But I always felt a little worried about the women. Funny, they had a loosely organized Radio Widows' Club, and I always was sure they'd compare notes and add two and two and find out it was four. But I guess they weren't interested in anything but who won at Bingo or who divorced what jerk.

Freddie Emerick, the local wholesaler, didn't help either. Every time the gang met at his place he would inquire, "What's it worth to you bums for me not to tell your wives?" Naturally we threatened him with everything from the dread Wouff-Hong to total dismemberment. He never did talk, though, but it did give the gang a lot of uneasy moments.

So that brings me up to date. I still haven't got the big rig done. Maybe someday I will—if I load my gear into the next V2 rocket for the moon and sit up there in solitude and tinker.

The Doc cleared his throat, grunted, and scratched his chin meditatively.

"So all this double dealing and trouble comes—for what? So a fellow can talk to the guy on the next block?" Properly indignant at this display of ignorance, I launched myself into a lecture on ham radio and backed up my claims by pointing out the latest DX column in a magazine I had in my pocket. After I had unwound and paused for breath, the Doc agreed that maybe an ordinary person COULD build a rig capable of working the world. "But," he added, "I'm going to have to ask you to forget your tubes and wires for a while. I'm going to prescribe a little rest. After that you can return to your short wave. But remember! IT'S ONLY A HOBBY!!"

I had visions of straight jackets and padded cells, but found out that such wasn't the case. The place was a renovated mansion and rather pleasant—after the initial urges to tear up the a.c.-d.c. set in my room and stick it on 40 c.w. There was one really gone guy there, though. Used to bump into him every once in a while.

Seems he had me pegged right as a radio nut. He always blamed me for putting him in there. Said I "irradiated" him. I also ran into one ham there, but the nurse always kept us apart. Seems he had 75 watts and a dipole and lived a couple doors down from another local. The nurse said he, too, had a persecution complex. Worst stages.

But finally the house Doc came to me one day and said I was all fixed up and could return home. I grabbed my belongings, whistled one last wolf call at the nurse and headed for the door.

As I passed the receiving section I noticed my old Doc. Fact is, he reached out and grabbed me as I went by. Pulling me into a corner he glanced furtively about. He had a kind of wild, staring look. He said, "Hey, Boy! Remember that little talk we had? Well, I'm now-heh-heh-W8AACS! Only I got in when the good surplus was gone. For cripes sake, get me a couple of those surplus kw plate transformers before they're all gone! AND DON'T TELL MY WIFE!!"

M.A.R.S.

(from page 31)

I went to Calhoun and put into operation at TCS-12. In view of the previous day's experience, it was decided to put our portable equipment on 4085 kc (MARS frequency) and operate under the call A4NIX. This plan proved very successful. Owensboro stations who monitored our frequency included W4JXB, W4LTQ, W4LUB and W4PFQ. Both voice and c.w. were used to transmit Red Cross, flood victim, weather report, and Coast Guard traffic.

"While the emergency did not ever become very serious, the hams in this vicinity got some excellent practice under emergency conditions."

Future MARS emergency planning is being based on the lessons learned and reported by A4PDW in this operation. Some of these lessons are:

1. MARS frequencies provide clear channels which are invaluable for operating low-power portable equipment during emergencies.

2. Every ham should attain and maintain a code proficiency sufficient to handle traffic on c.w. when voice circuits fail.

BEGINNER'S TRANSMITTER

(from page 21)

should be removed from its jack so as to open the battery circuit and thus conserve battery life.

The filaments of all tubes should be lighted for a minute or so before applying plate voltage to allow for any small change of frequency due to tube heating. Now throw the plate switch and observe the plate milliammeter reading. Unless the final is already resonated, which is unlikely, the plate current will be rather high, so do not leave the voltage on until the output pi network is tuned for minimum current. This tuning procedure is as follows:

Tune-up and Operation

Antenna disconnected; set the variable condenser, which is mounted above the chassis (C_2), to about $\frac{3}{4}$ mesh; now apply plate voltage and tune C_1 to resonance immediately. This will be indicated by a pronounced dip in plate current, as indicated on M. Now attach the antenna and retune C_1 for the dip again; if the dip is too high, or if the setting of C_1 is very much different from the original setting, retune C_2 to an increase in capacitance and then retune C_1 for dip. Now, if the dip is too low (not enough loading), the capacitance of C_2 should be reduced a bit. Generally speaking, the idea is to keep the circuit in resonance, or as near to it as possible with C_1, and tune C_2 for loading, realizing that the tuning of one has an effect on the other. You should be able to find a point on the setting of C_2 where, when the antenna is disconnected, C_1 will have to be readjusted very slightly for point of maximum dip. A Xmas tree bulb in series with antenna lead may help on this tuning procedure for an indica-

tion of antenna current. This whole tuning procedure reads and sounds a lot more complicated than it actually is, and the system works easy and well.

This little phone rig should provide an interesting construction project for the beginner, as well as many satisfying hours of QSO with the local boys. The old-timer who has a transmitter or two on the air already will find it a handy accessory outfit for the 160 meter band, eliminating the need for revamping the final of an existing rig. At the present writing the condition of the band is such that the output of this rig (between 15–25 watts) will be plenty for around-town operation, either daytime or after dark. The writer sincerely hopes that there can be coöperation on this band to the extent that the fellows with the half-gallon rigs will ease off a little on this limited frequency spectrum and let the little fellow have a chance.

THE TRAFFIC MIDGET

(*from page 16*)

coupled oscillator with a high C to L ratio in the grid circuit. When the transmitter is being used, the oscillator runs continuously, and the final amplifier is keyed. The switch at the extreme left controls the plate voltage to the oscillator. It may be turned off if receiving near the transmitting frequency. The dial with the lock controls the oscillator frequency. The range of the oscillator covers the entire c.w. band with the exception of the last 50 kc on the low end of the band. This precaution was taken to prevent the transmitter from being tuned outside the band.

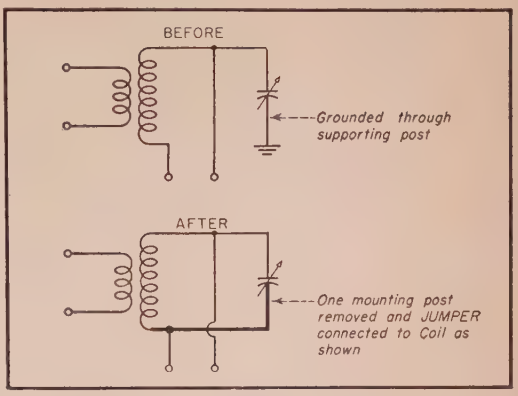
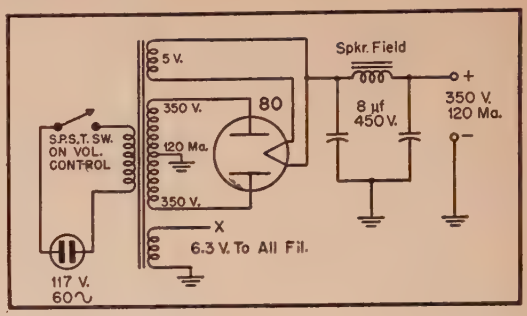


Fig. 1, illustrating the rebuilding of the last i.f. transformer as described in the text.

After the initial warmup period the oscillator has negligible drift.

The transformer used has a plate current rating of 120 ma. This necessitates that the power supply be switched from the receiver to

the transmitter, so as not to overload the transformer. This is accomplished by means of the switch at the left of the volume control. Directly above this switch is the tank condenser of the power amplifier. The keying jack is mounted



There is practically nothing to the power supply.

on the rear of the chassis. No difficulty should be encountered in getting the transmitter to operate if the coils are wound as directed.

Operation

The operation of the station is straightforward. The control circuits are wired so as to be able to turn the VFO on simultaneously with the receiver for purposes of zero beating the frequency of stations to be called. When the power amplifier is to be keyed, the second switch from the left is thrown, which disconnects the plate voltage from the receiver and leaves the transformer plate supply capacity available for the transmitter.

The range of the station is mostly a function of the antenna. When it is used in conjunction with a half wave antenna a range of 500 miles is not too much to expect, for with the VFO a clear channel can always be found.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

(*from page 17*)

The second phase is best described by making reference to *Fig. 1*. Here we have an illustration of the two portable bulletin boards and some of the material thereon. Space on the right hand board is occupied by the covers of several of the principal radio publications and are described as a means of keeping the ham abreast of the latest electronic developments. At the extreme left, a number of ham certificates are posted, including an enlarged replica of a ham license. Centrally displayed on the board are maps of the U. S. and the world with QSL cards fastened near the areas which they represent. We are favored with a member who has collected cards from many remote spots and by carefully selecting the most exotic of these cards great interest is created in the card display.

The third phase of the program is the practical demonstration. The use of "CQ" is demon-

strated and explained, then an emergency situation is simulated and an emergency net of mobile units is formed. In accordance with prearranged plans, the mobile units deploy around the area, giving reports as they go. One trick used very successfully involves stationing a mobile unit at the residence of the president of the club before whom the program is being given. While the president and members are listening to the speaker in the meeting room, the president's wife is put on the air via the mobile mike. (Don't forget the FCC requires that a licensed operator control the transmitter.) There is always much surprise and laughter and a perfect program climax is effected. To guard against mike fright, an outline is prepared, and the wife uses this for guidance.

The seven members of the public relations committee operate with two members alternating as narrators, one describing the bulletin boards, two operating the meeting room portable station, and two operating the mobile units.

BUILDING A BEAM

(*from page 14*)

pull the tubing apart. Here's the solution for that:

The next time you go to an aircraft surplus store, pick up a few large aircraft soldering lugs that are capped with a red plastic cover. Under this cover is a gob of anti-oxidizing compound that you can smear over the ends of the outside sections of tubing. When this tubing is inserted in the center section, this compound will form an air-tight joint between the tubes and absolutely prevent any corrosive action at the joint. Wonderful stuff!

After the element is assembled, it should be sanded and then given a coat of aluminum paint. That will keep it in good shape for several years.

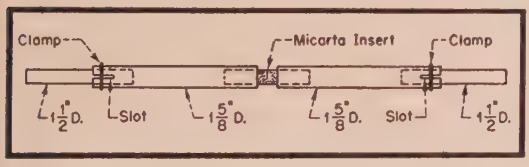


Fig. 9. The assembly of the driven element when a split element is used. Micarta or dried oak will provide good insulation while still making for mechanical rigidity.

If a balanced feed system is used, the driven element should be split at the center and each half mounted on two insulators. The "hat section" should be made five feet long to take the extra torque. To eliminate the twist thrown on the insulators by the uneven load distribution, a piece of insulating material such as dry oak or micarta should be turned down to present a tight fit to the tubing and pressed into the center ends of the element (*Fig. 9*). This will make the split element

a mechanical unity and take most of the twist off of the insulators.

The beam should now be completely assembled and placed atop a box or sawhorse and balanced at its physical center. The guy turnbuckles should be adjusted to level the beam, and then they *must* be safety wired into place.

Last Minute Notes

1. Use plated hardware! DON'T use stove bolts or any bolts that lack an oxide-proof coating. Brother, if you do, don't call on me to help you take your beam down!

2. If possible, use hexagonal-headed bolts and elastic stop-nuts. Standard A-N bolts (and others, no doubt have matched heads and stop-nuts so that a single sized wrench may be used on each end. It is much easier to manipulate two end wrenches atop a tower than to use a wrench and a screw driver. Also, you will not slash yourself if the wrench slips. I recommend $\frac{1}{4}$–28 A-N bolts be made standard and used throughout the beam and tower. It is a great help when all nuts and bolts are of the same thread and diameter.

3. I have attached my elements to the stand-off insulators by means of aluminum aircraft hose clamps. This is turning out to be the weak point of the beam. These clamps are fairly brittle, and already one of them has snapped in a heavy wind. The next project is to remove all these clamps and put super-long bolts in the top of the stand-offs, the bolts being long enough to go through the $1\frac{5}{8}$" element. A stop-nut on the top of the bolt will hold the element securely in place. However, the XYL says if the beam comes down *once more,* it will stay down! So. . . .

Getting the beam UP

Well, here we are, in the back yard all set to have an antenna party. It would be folly to give an explicit pattern to follow—such hazards as clothes lines, power poles, poison ivy, and TV antennas tend to "louse up" the ideal procedure. If you are lucky and have a reasonable amount of room, here is an easy way to get the beam atop the tower: Briefly, the beam is pulled up the tower by a block and tackle arrangement. If round strain insulators are used on the guy wires, the beam may be slid right up the guys. The tackle is tied about the center of the boom, and a second rope is tied to the "top" of the boom. One ham at the base of the tower heaves on the tackle, and a second atop the tower pulls on the guide rope to keep the beam in a vertical position. As soon as the top of the boom is at the cradle, it may be inserted into it, and the cradle will act as a guide. If the tackle has been tied low enough on the boom, it is possible to hoist the beam from the ground right up to correct position so that the man on the top of the tower can drop the first retaining bolt in place. Two men are all that are needed—personally, I like to be the one on the ground.

(*To be concluded*)

THE MONITORING POST

(from page 36)

702. W4PL is expected to be heard soon again pushing traffic through to all sorts of places as heretofore. . . . **W1SAJ**, Marg, is the xyl of **W1QVC**, formerly a W9, who keeps after SAJ to spend her time on c.w. until she can at least copy 50 wpm. . . . **VE2AAU** stepped out recently with a 6-watt n.b.f.m. rig to QSO **W5PNB** on ten while using an indoor antenna; his other accomplishments are 47 states and seven VE districts, Europeans and Cubans on 40 with a 140-watt rig.

W4PGB is anxious to get a net started with Morse ops, he being one himself, and asks that all Morse men hearing him give him a call so things can get started. . . . In its second year the Nortown ARC lists more than 100 active members. . . . Dick Roberts, an avid SWL since 1928, whose cards can be found in shacks all over the world, can now be heard on 40 with the call **VE3AHA**—he's known as "Capt. Morgan." . . . **VE3RU** has passed the 200 mark in QSOs with **VE5DC**—looks as though Ethel can be depended upon as a good sked station. . . . Over 100 countries worked using FM on ten is the score for **VE3BQP**. . . . **W5MAV** is on the air again at a new QTH. . . . **W5MRS**, **W5NC**, and **W5PIN** can be heard the same as ever batting it back and forth. . . . W5MUZ. Club held elections recently with **W5MRS** coming out as Prexy . . . **W5MRS** (Pappy), **W5MRT** (Yankee), and **W5MRU** (Cotton) are dad and two sons, respectively, all being Morse ops for the Mo. Pac. RR.

WØWY, brother of **WØFCC**, became a member of the Minneapolis RC recently. . . . Congrats to **WØQIN**, daddy of a jr. op. . . . **YV5OA** visited the Milwaukee RAC recently to meet some of the boys he's QSOd so often. . . . **W2TXB** has added PJ, VU, UL, HZ, and VS to his list of countries worked making the total 196, and **W2PZM** added YO, CR, HL, and others for his total of 109 worked. . . . A 10-page bulletin is turned out by the Rochester (N.Y.) ARA, just full of news—called The RARA Rag.

W1QLL read about a little fellow who liked receiving post cards from far-off places while hospitalized with leukemia at Children's Hospital, Milwaukee, Wis., and started things going by requesting the gang to send cards to make this boy happy. More than 6,000 QSL cards from hams, and others, including a few collections, one such from a person in Rhode Island, numbering 1,700 pictures dating back to Theodore Roosevelt's big game hunting days has to date brought the total to more than 17,000 cards received by Armand Schultz, 2101a W. Lloyd St., Milwaukee. Then the Milwaukee ARC voted the 9-year-old an associate member; a certificate of membership presented to him recently by Veepee W9ONY is proudly displayed by Armand; Armand's parents request their thanks be extended in ham publications; a QSO was arranged between W9ONY and W1QLL when Armand talked with the latter at length—a receiver has been installed at the boy's bedside, and he spends a great deal of time listening to phone QSOs—it is not known whether Armand will survive his illness, and he has been gradually weakening since last August, so let's get some traffic going addressed to him.

DX & OVERSEAS

(*from page 34*)

pushover compared to working it on c.w., at least, that's the way it is for the VEs. George's latest on phone are ZS8A, AR8AB, VR3A, and CR5UP. . . . It is good to see VE1PQ bring his countries up to date . . . they now total 123. . . . The same goes for VE3ACS. Some of his newest and best are PJ5RE, MD7DC, SP5AC, SVØWH, and XZ2FK.

W9NZZ has been having fun lately working such stuff as ZS9D, HR2RF, EA6AF, SP5ZPZ, and let's not overlook CT2AB. . . . W4BYF is receiving a copy of PJ5TR's log each week for QSLing purposes.

LU8BF, the DX editor of Radio Onda, tells me that PZ1A uses an 815 in his final, and he, 8BF, worked EL5B while LU3BY was operating. He says he is in Africa hunting lions. LU8BF worked CR5UP, who passed word along that he was returning to Portugal; however, CR5NF will be on the air in Portuguese Guinea. Radio Onda is awarding a DX certificate to anyone who has worked 50 different countries and has had them confirmed. All that is necessary to achieve this certification is to send a list showing the stations worked, the country, time, band, and phone or c.w. This list must be confirmed by your local radio club or any group of amateurs who will vouch for the authenticity of the list of DX worked. *Do not send QSL cards.* Send only the list of countries.

LU8BF says that LU2ZA is operated by LU4HU, and QSLs for LU2ZA may be sent to the QTH of LU4HU.

W9WCE relates that he was about ready to slip off the page in the Honor Roll, so he got to work and fired up the rig—resulting in knocking off two or three more countries. Joe has been laying it on heavy on 10 phone lately, working CR7IL, GC2FZC, MI3SC, ZC6UNJ, DU1VVS, EA2CA, and FF8AH.

W2HMJ is grieving because he has to leave top spot in the 37 Zone column, all because he worked XZ2FK for his 38th Zone. . . . W4AZK has added a few such as UAØAA, UN1AB, VS6JH, ZS9D, and EA6AF. . . . W3DKT, I see, has some nice new ones in FN8AD, ZS7C, ZS9D, and FY8AA.

W6TT adds a few on phone—ZS7C, CR5UP, and YK1AC. A few others he has worked on c.w. are FY8AA, VP8AO, and FB8AX. . . . W1MCW has salted away another one in YK1AC. Yep, this was on 10 phone. . . . Another one concentrating on 10 phone is W2ZVS. He also worked YK1AC, KR6AS, VU2GB, KJ6AF, KX6BA, KM6AO, and CT2AE. Lots of good Pacific stuff on 10.

ZL1HY started out the new year with a couple of new countries—*FY8AA,* and ZS7C. . . .

VK2ACX took time out to bring his list of countries up to date, and barring any accidents, his total should be around 200. Art's list is pretty long, but the last few are ZS3B, ZS9D, HR2RF, and FQ8HC.

1950 has done alright for W2WZ, as his log shows the addition of FQ8HC, ZS9D, and EA9BB. . . . Even the W9s are working DX!! W9FKC had the velvet touch when he hooked SP5AC, FN8AD, ZS9D (Gee, everyone is working him!), and last, but by no means least, AC4RF. . . . Another W9 heard from—this one is W9HP who does his work

on phone. Frank's last ones include VS7GR, KS4AN, VQ2HC, and GD3UB.

While we are in the 9th district, we might as well pass along an idea coming out of W9DKV. Pat says he has quite a number of fairly recent Call Books, and he knows there must be foreign hams somewhere who could use these books. He wants to know if there is some place in the country that is used as a headquarters for mailing out Call Books to the boys overseas who can use them. I agree with Pat that if there was some central spot, there surely would be thousands of Call Books from the Ws that could get in the hands of the boys overseas who could not normally afford them. If you have any ideas, you might pass them along to W9DKV.

HL1AL passes along a list of the licensed amateurs in Korea at the present time: HL1AF, AL, BJ, BQ, BM, CQ, and US. Incidentally, HL1US is the newly licensed station of the American Ameteur Radio Club of Korea and should be on the air by the time you read this. They will be using a TBS-50 and will operate on 10 phone, as well as 20 and 40 c.w. A great deal of the operating will be done by W3PKU and W4MNW. Any of you fellows who have not received QSL cards from HL1 stations which were formerly operated by personnel of the Military Government, and which are now non-existent, can probably secure information on their new QTH by getting in touch with Captain R. U. Mauby, HL1BJ.

Some of you would possibly like to know the new address of the headquarters offices of the South African Radio League. It is P. O. Box 3911, Capetown, South Africa. Do not confuse this with the QSL Bureau, as that address remains unchanged. We may as well repeat it, so here it is: QSL Bureau, P. O. Box 3037, Capetown, South Africa.

W3FYS suggests having a silent day once a week for each W call area. He says in this way, with the W6s off, they would stand a better chance of getting through to the Asians as well as the Pacific. He says the same thing would be true for the W6s to get through to Europe and North Africa when the East Coasters are off the air. Who wants to start it??? If a deal like this went through, I can almost hear some W6, shall we say "unknowingly," turning on his receiver on the W6 silent day, and hearing none of the QRM piling up, proceeds to work everything in sight with little or no competition. From then on, it would be every man for himself again. I don't imagine this could happen on the East Coast, because everyone there is so coöperative!

By the way, while we are still talking about W3FYS, he said he learned something the other day when he sent in his cards for BERTA. He discovered that somewhere in the past the rules had been changed, and their requirements for BERTA now cover almost half the country list.

Every now and then someone lets up a yowl about PXs not sending cards. Now, it looks as though PX1A (at least one of them) has whipped up a card and is sending them, because a couple of the fellows (W1BIH and W3CBT) have sent us cards from PX1A which were mailed from his present QTH in Mexico. I think XE1AC mentioned sometime ago that you might try getting in touch with PX1A via Box 273, Chihuahua, Mexico. On his card is this line, "I am the sole Ham in Andorra. Other PXs you may heard are pirates." The card is signed "Rick."

ZL2GX is still ticking them off. Here are a few of them: AC4NC, FY8AA, FF3CN, FQ8HC,

F9JD (on Corsica), CR4SS, and ZS9D. . . . Oh, yes, W3EVW also received a card from PX1A. Roger hooked VQ3KIF on phone, and while on c.w., he worked ZD2FAR, ZD2TBS, and VQ3BNU. . . . G2BVN, who works phone, has a few god ones in VP3LF, PZ1QM, MD2MD, and YK1AC.

If there are any DXmen in North and South Dakota who would like to make VQ2GW happy, you can do it simply by working him. He needs these two States for WAS.

KL7PJ took a little vacation and headed for W2 where he met W2ALO and the No. 1 WAZman, W2BXA. Chuck said he was glad to get back in Anchorage, however, even if it was cold. KL7GG has now worked 39 Zones and is gunning for Zone 23. Frank runs a kw, and uses a 4-element beam on a 50′ steel tower.

While still up Alaska way, I might as well tell you that KL7UM has hooked his last zone, this being OA5A. He still needs a few cards, but it looks as though Bran is getting pretty close. . . . For those who have been on the air for years and years, you may remember him in 1921 when he had the call 7UM and was running an old spark outfit. After a layoff, he got back on the air in 1930, and he had the calls W7QI and then K7QI. After the war, he applied for KL7UM, and that is what he is now using. Whenever someone mentions "the old spark days," it sort of strikes a soft spot in my heart. But, on the other hand, maybe it shouldn't even be mentioned, because it kind of dates a guy!

In a letter to W6TT, VR5PL relates that VR5IP is married and is now in VR2. The only other ham on Tonga is VR5GA, and at present, he seems to be operating phone on 14,380. VR5PL has only two crystals and operates 14,092 on c.w. and 14,120 on phone. Noel says that VR5GA is an electrical engineer and is installing power on Tonga. At this time, they have restricted hours for using the power lines, but they expect to be able to use them 24 hours a day by next July.

I1IR tells us that he has heard from M1B, who says he is the only genuine station in M1. If you hear other M1s, they are pirates somewhere else in Europe. He is also quite sure that his own call is being pirated somewhat, and, naturally he could not be expected to QSL these contacts. I1IR has also received a very nice letter from the Government of Monaco, which said that the new CZ2AC is unknown there. Gee! People sure like to kick this call around . . . don't they? Who's next?

According to W3JTC, FW5AA is on Corsica. Of course, you have heard that FW5 is the new prefix for the island. Larry also says that FW8AA will be on shortly from Wallis Island, which is in or near the Tonga and Friendly group.

While on the subject of new French prefixes, there might be one or two of you who are wondering about FM7WE. He is none other than F9QU/FM8. In the February issue, something was said about CR5UP leaving Sao Thomas Island to become CT1BW. Don't blame W4LZM for this, because CR5UP apparently changed his mind on his date of departure, as, at this writing, he is still there.

VE1EA is still DXing on 160, his latest being G2PL, GD3UB, G8NF, G6BQ, and G3PU. . . . It is old stuff by now, but a few of you possibly might not know that 3V8AB is ex-FT4AB. Sounds more like a new type of receiving tube to me. . . . KH6PY is keeping his fingers crossed and hoping

that when he worked AC4RF, he was in Zone 23. Jack finds that taking care of his new 5th Harmonic somewhat curtails his DX operating. . . . By the way, XZ2EM is now off the air and probably headed for England.

Some of the fellows have written in during the past few months wondering if it wouldn't be a good idea for the boys to add the Zone number when they have their QSL cards printed. It might not be a bad idea, and it certainly won't take up very much room. . . . Why not give it a thought the next time you have some cards printed?

A few of the good ones that have been on lately are CR5AM in Portuguese Guinea 14,115, FB8AX in Antarctica at approximately 140° E and 67° S. Then, the other day, W6EBG worked VQ9ON, who is supposed to be on Seychelles. . . . Some of the boys are still having a good time working CR1ØAA. He is sometimes found around 14,070. . . . While we are talking about working stuff—some of the boys wonder what goes with TZ1J. Consensus of opinion around here seems to indicate he is one of the lads on a boat somewhere.

Lacking any suitable material for the usual soapbox oratory, I'll just wind this thing up and see you at the next session. 73.

QTHs

CR5AM	Armando Mariano, P. O. Box 206, Portuguese Guinea
EP1AC	Box 108, Abadan, Iran
FM7WE	Box 281, Fort-de-France, Martinique, French West Indies
HL1s	APO 404, c/o P.M. San Francisco, California
VP7NN	QSL to home QTH which is W2ZK
ZD1KO	Sierra Leone Signal Squadron, Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa

ZERO BIAS

(*from page 10*)

things in common, we have enjoyed some pleasant contacts discussing both technical and personal matters. However, the Russian amateurs are apparently under strict orders to confine their remarks to these two subjects, because they simply ignore any questions or remarks that fall in any other category.

Amateurs of other foreign countries, however, are free to discuss with us almost any subject that happens to strike their fancy, from the Laps and their reindeer in Finland to the way the zebras destroy the crops in Southwest Africa, to mention two examples.

Surely you will agree that these casual conversations between the amateurs of this country and those of others, all with one burning mutual interest that bridges thousands of miles of ocean and hurdles all political barriers, must inevitably lead each to a better understanding and appreciation of the other's way of life. This is the contribution of amateur radio to international good will.

I hope that in this very brief review of the public service aspects of amateur radio I have not given the impression that amateurs do any of

(*QSY to page 72*)

Classified Ads

Advertising in this section must pertain to amateur radio activities. Rates: 25c per word per insertion for commercial advertisements. 5c per word for non-commercial advertisements by bona fide amateurs. Remittance in full must accompany copy. Phone orders not accepted. No agency or term or cash discounts allowed. No display or special typographical ad setups allowed. "CQ" does not guarantee any product or service advertised in the Classified Section. Closing date for ads is the 25th of the 2nd month preceding publication date.

GREAT LAKES DIVISION A.R.R.L. CONVENTION. Hotel Statler, Detroit, May 27–28–29. Registration and banquet $7.50. Mammoth Swap 'n" Shop session! Prizes! Prizes! Write Box 903, Detroit 31, Michigan, for tickets or buy through local club or dealer.

VHF 152-A factory reconditioned $50.00. WØPLJ Jackson, Mo.

QSLs? SWLs? "America's Finest!" Samples 3¢. Sackers, W8DED, Holland, Michigan.

FOR SALE: BC348 converted to AC in excellent condition $60.00; SCR522 like new $25.00; 9 amp 230 volt variac, can be used on 115, best offer; several 872A's, good as new, $1.25 each. Address Box 261, Manderville, La.

SELL: T-23/ARC-5 100–156 mc. original carton with tubes, less crystals, $15.00. MD-7/ARC-5, original carton, $10.00. W2GVF, 82 B'way, Bayonne, N. J.

BARGAINS—NEW AND USED TRANSMITTERS—RECEIVERS—PARTS: Globe King $299.00; HT-9 $275.00; Supreme AF100 $299.00; Sonar SRT-75 $149.00; new 150 watt phone $199.00; 60 watt phone $99.00; Globe Trotter $57.50; HT-17 $29.50; New Meissner signal calibrators $29.95; MB611 $29.50; NC240D $165.00; HRO complete $129.00. SX43, NC173, HQ129X $139.00; RME45, SX25 $99.00; S38 $29.95; S41 $22.50; latest signal shifter $59.50; DB22A $49.00; BC610's and many others Large stock, trade-ins. Free trial. Terms financed by Leo, WØGFQ. Write for catalog and best deal to World Radio Labs., Council Bluffs, Iowa.

10-METER 3-ELEMENT BEAMS—$19.50. Send card for free information. Riverside Tool Co., Box 87, Riverside, Illinois.

AMATEUR RADIO LICENSES. Complete theory preparation for passing amateur radio examinations. Home study and resident courses. American Radio Institute, 101 West 63rd Street, New York City.

HOTTEST SURPLUS LIST in the country. Electronics-hydraulics-aircraft gadgets. Dick Rose, Everett, Wash.

QSLs, SWLs. Made the way you want them. Samples? W9BHV QSL Factory, 857 Burlington, Frankfort, Ind.

WANTED: AN/ART-13, BC-348, RTA-1B, AN/APN-9, R5A/ARN-7, AN/ARC-1, AN/ARC-3, BC-788-C, 1-152, MN-26, test sets with TS- or I- prefix, dynamotors, control boxes, transmitters, receivers, power supplies, etc. State quantity, condition and best price first letter. HI-MU Electronics, Box 105, New Haven, Conn.

QSLs! G. L. Taylor, Sumrall, Mississippi.

QSLs. HIGH QUALITY, fair prices, samples? W7GPP, 1380 F. The Dalles, Oregon.

COLORTONE QSL's! top quality! Samples? Mobile QSL's? Colortone Press, Tupelo, Miss.

BC348 unconverted $50.00—AC converted $50.00; BC224 unconverted $35.00; SCR 522 and dynamotor $20.00; Weston Radio test set 156-A new and complete with tube tester, set analyzer, volt ohmmeter and instructions. A. L. McMullen, W5PHO, 520 Center St., Alva, Oklahoma.

BC-614-E, JB-70A, BC-610 (built from original surplus parts) best offer over $250.00. Must inspect before offer. W9QGH.

NC240-D receiver for sale, used very limitedly. Any reasonable offer accepted. Louis Gruenberg, 90 Goffle Hill Road. Hawthorne, New Jersey.

SELL OR TRADE: Brush VP-5 vibration pickup excellent condition, Dupre B flat wood clarinet no cracks needs pad job but otherwise excellent condition. Want good 5-amp variac and a deal for Millen grid dip meter or Jackson 650-A condenser analyzer or other ham equipment. F. C. Breeden, W2SIJ, 61–17 224th St., Bayside, N. Y.

Sonar NBFM XE-10 unit $15.00. Telvar T-60-2 transmitter with tubes and coils for ten meters, $105.00. Four oil filled condensers 12 mfd. 2000 vdc $5.50. Four for $21.00. W2ODH, Garfield, N. J.

Large lot ham equipment and miscellaneous parts reasonably priced. Send for list. WØSGG, 535 East Platte Ave., Colorado Springs, Colo.

GOING TO TRY for your Amateur Radio Operator's License? Check yourself with a written test similar to those used by the F.C.C. Complete coverage, multiple-choice questions with answer key. Class B & C test $1.75. Class A test $2.00. Amateur Radio Supply, 1013 Seventh Ave., Worthington, Minnesota.

10 AND 20 METER BEAMS $19.25, up. Aluminum tubing etc. Willard Radcliff, Fostoria, Ohio.

BARGAINS: New and reconditioned Collins, National, Hallicrafters, Hammerlund, RME, Millen, Meissner, Gonset, etc. Reconditioned S38 $29.00, S53 $49.00, S40A $59.00, SX42 $179.00, NC57 $59.00, NC173 $139.00, HQ129X $129.00, RME84, RME45, DB22A, HF-10-20, VHFF52A, SX43, NC240D, NC183, HRO7, Collins 75A, Collins 32V, BC610, Meissner bandswitching VFO complete, $49.00. Shipped on trial. Terms. List free. Henry Radio, Butler, Mo.

2 HANDY-TALKIES, Sperti, used, good condition, $22.00 each. APR 4 receiver less tuners, $100.00 prepaid. W8KKE J. Rapien, 59–07 East Woodmont Ave., Cincinnati 13, Ohio.

SELL: Motorola 10-meter mobile transmitter, 3–30 mc Gonset 4D32 tube, etc. Send for list. E. L. Felder, Tylertown, Miss.

PLATE TRANSFORMERS 3600-3000-2500 at 375 ma $39.95, 2500-2000-1500 at 550 ma $39.95, 2100-1800-1500 at 350 ma $21.95. All each side CT, Primary 110–220 volts fully cased, hermatically sealed, not surplus. Frampton Transformer, Box 109, Blackwell, Okla.

SELL: 3 element 20-meter rotary beam and six foot tower with built in prop-pitch motor, selsyns, four slip rings and change over relay for proposed 15-meter beam control box. Don McNamara, 829 North 12th St., Milwaukee, Wisc.

NEED CASH—MUST SELL Beautifully constructed Eldico 1500 volt supply for cost of kit plus tubes etc. $35.00. Also BC-348R, converted to 110, S-Meter, noise limiter and speaker $75.00. Both guaranteed. Don McNamara, 829 North 12th St., Milwaukee, Wisc.

CALIBRATION-REPAIR SERVICE: Instruments, test equipment. Audio oscillators calibrated. Precision standards employed. Breon Laboratories, quartz crystal manufacturers, Williamsport, Penna.

WANTED: Code practise machines, and tapes—new, used. Arthur Blau, 625 W. 164th St., New York 32, N. Y.

FOR SALE: SX43 and Jensen B151 base reflex with 12" speaker, nearly new, $145.00 complete. John Anderson WØKVP/6, 649 S. Santa Fe, Compton, Calif.

FOR SALE— BC-610-E, 80 thru 10, excellent condition. Write WØHBQ, Box 1314, Chadron, Nebr.

LM 13 frequency meter, new, with power supply and cal. bk. $80.00. W6VWA, 10306 Otis St., So. Gate, Calif. LO 65045.

SELL AT BARGAIN. Want to hear elusive DX? HRO-W plus DB-22A Gonset Clipper power supply and speaker completely lined on the nose $150.00 shipped prepaid in USA. This line-up heard and worked 175 countries with apartment dipole. Write, wire, phone RE 9-4253 R. O. Strock, W2YW, 84–49 168th St., Jamaica 3, New York.

FOR SALE: Used, unconverted ART/13, $100. Prefer to sell but will consider trade. W7JFR.

QSLs OF DISTINCTION! Three colors and up. Samples? Uncle Fred, Box 86 Lynn, Penna.

"New 2½" Weston 1.2 ma movement meter with linear scale marked 0–100, suitable for use as field strength indicators, tuning meters, multimeters, etc. Only $3.00 postpaid. Overbrook Company, Overbrook 81, Mass.

QSL's—Still at our low prices. VYS Print, 1704 Hale Ave., Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

CLUB SECRETARIES AND OFFICERS: WRITE TODAY to the Club Secretary, c/o Radio Magazines, Inc., 342 Madison Ave., New York 17, New York, for free information and offers to benefit your organization.

ATTRACTIVE BUY—COMPLETE STATION: Includes Super Pro with power supply and speaker, 125 kc to 30 mc. XE10 and ten crystals. Fully shielded; metered rack and panel 220 watt input transmitter, 6L6/807 pp24G's. Covers all bands; supplied with ten meter coils. Relay, shure 707A mike, key. All set to go! Also two meter modulated oscillator transmitter-receiver. 274N V.F.O. new, not converted, plus parts for power supply. Best offer! W2QNW, Herbert Spingeld, 35–50 78th Street, Jackson Heights, N. Y. Butterfield 8-7384.

CQ Ad Index

these things because they feel it is their duty to do so in order to justify their existence. Those who handle messages in the traffic nets do so simply because they derive so much pleasure from the fast, snappy operating used in them, and because they enjoy being part of these efficient organizations. The men who have served in emergencies are sufficiently rewarded by the satisfaction anyone would derive from having done a difficult job well under the most trying circumstances. The ones who serve as propagation observers on the very high frequencies are just as interested in knowing the answers to some of the mysteries of unpredictable propagation effects as the government laboratories that are investigating them. Those who participate in the military and naval reserve amateur systems are secure in the knowledge that they are prepared to step into the armed services with advanced ratings when another national emergency arises.

It's things like this, you see, that to me, and to 100,000 other amateur operators throughout the world, make amateur radio the most interesting, the most exciting, and the most satisfying of all conceivable hobbies.

SCRATCHI

(from page 4)

that he has already bought some crystals, all on same frequency. With that he are passing out the crystals—after relieving each one of us of two bux—and closing the meeting.

Next drill night Scratchi are getting his transmitter all fixed up and ready to go. Not using crystal, on acct. having strictly VFO rig, but then I am not worrying about being able to get my rig on the right frequency. After all, Scratchi are expert on frequency control and measurement.

I carefully put VFO on exact frequency, wait my turn, then call in. Net control are not acknowledging, but this not worrying me just then. Later on, when other fellows sending practise messages, one follow asking how some Scratchi not on. I smile, throw on the rig, and send cupple of quick dits and dahs to show I'm there. How come now? —net control come back to other fellow and say maybe my rig not yet working.

Scratchi now getting kinda worried. I listen on receiver, turn on VFO, and sure enough, my signal are there like million bux. Then I reduce receiver gain, turn on main signal, and are still hearing myself, except signal not very loud. A little tuning with receiver shows my main signal is a cupple hundred kilocycles higher. Next ten minutes are futilely spent trying to change frequency of main signal, but whatever I do, it are stubbornly staying at same spot. I turn the VFO off. Hokendoki!! main signal are still on. I take out driving stage—main signal still on same frequency.

As last resort pull final stage out of rack and put it on the floor, connect the high voltage to it, and Hon. Ed., you wouldn't believing it, but it are still oscillating and still on same frequency. Upshoot of it all are that the final are self oscillating on one frequency whenever high voltage applied.

Hon. Ed., you having any information on how to make pads for diathermy machine? I thinking of using my final for same, to ease my aching back.

Yours respectively,
Hashafisti Scratchi